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Meet The Filthiest Songwriter In America
Edmonton's Gay Community: Still Loud, Still Queer
Festival of Ideas: David Schindler On Changing Public Opinion
The Legacy Of Buddy Guy

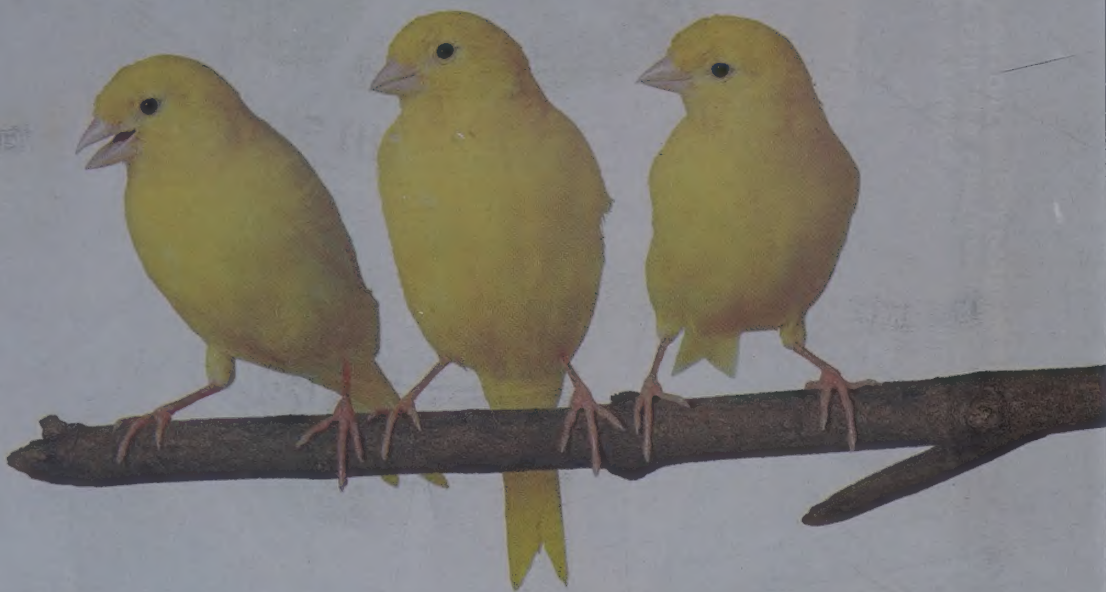
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WALLIS KENDAL

THE MAN BEHIND iHUMAN TALKS ABOUT A LIFE SPENT IN SERVICE

NOVEMBER 13, 2008
ISSUE 781

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What keeps some servers doing their demanding job for decades? There's more to it than just the tips.

21 music EVERYONE DESERVES SECOND CHANCES

Jill Barber's latest album might show up in your mom's stocking, but you'll want to burn a copy too.

30 on screen THE SPY WHO AVENGED ME

Daniel Craig takes James Bond to new extremes of broodiness in *Quantum of Solace*.

37 arts LOUD, QUEER, AND APPARENTLY UNSTOPPABLE

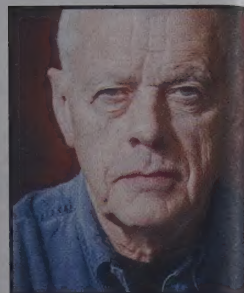
Now in its 17th year, Edmonton's biggest queer-positive cabaret lassoes another stellar lineup.

43 savage love PROPOSITION 8 KILLED MY ELECTION-NIGHT BUZZ

I'm glad Obama was elected, but California's anti-gay-marriage amendment is a major downer.

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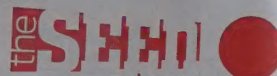


WALLIS KENDAL

The man behind iHuman talks about a life spent in service.

PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON

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MIKE SADAVA | FIRST PERSON PAGE 47

“LOCAL TOMATO SEASON IS DONE, AND I’VE FINISHED MY FIRST WEEK OF STORE-BOUGHT TOMATOES. SURE, I BOUGHT THEM “ON THE VINE,” BUT WHAT I BIT INTO WAS PITHY AND TASTELESS.”



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James Blunt, Rexall Place, Nov. 19

NOVEMBER 16

art | **NEW SEASONS** We agree that it's about time someone came up with a couple of new seasons. Winter's way too long and could probably be split in half and renamed. Perhaps Igor Woronik's Alberta-inspired paintings will offer a few suggestions. Shanti Hair.

NOVEMBER 17

commerce | **EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY WINTER BOOK SALE** Nothing can get you through winter like a good stockpile of books. They burn so well! Stanley A. Milner Library, 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER 18

learning | **A WRITER'S EYE ON JOURNALING** Dear Diary, How long would it take to compile an entire book of daily memoirs if we were to write one page a day? If we show up at the Stanley A. Milner Library at 7 p.m., we'll find out.

NOVEMBER 19

music | **JAMES BLUNT** This steamy folk hunk can take us *Back to Bedlam* anytime he wants. Rexall Place, 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 20

remembrance | **TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE** Eli Clare hosts a night of tribute to members of the transgendered community. Enterprise Square.

NOVEMBER 21

queer | **HOT TOPIC VS. WEDNESDAY LUPYPCIW** The City of Champions meets the heart of the new west in a battle of epic proportions, and no, the Flames aren't playing the Oilers. It's an art-off of sorts between Edmonton and Calgary queer scenes. The ARTery, 8:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 22

dance | **SHUMKA'S NEW WORKS GALA** Those crazy red-booted dancers are at it again and they'll be kicking out the jams for Kateryna Yushchenko, Ukraine's first lady. We're not sure if she'll be dancing, but we can always dream. Jubilee Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 23

music | **THE HERBALISER** Sure this sounds like something you'd buy at 4 a.m. after watching a half-hour infomercial starring Hal Johnson and Joanne McLeod, but in reality The Herbaliser is an internationally renowned DJ. Go fig. Starlite Room, 9 p.m.

NOVEMBER 24

comedy | **HIT OR MISS MONDAYS** You win some, you lose some, but don't expect your money back if it turns out bad. Comic Strip, 8 p.m.

NOVEMBER 25

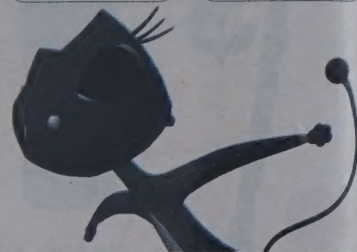
learning | **18TH CENTURY CHINA'S CHANGING WORLD VIEW AS REFLECTED IN ART** China built the Great Wall to keep out foreign invaders, but in retrospect it didn't work very well. Just ask Maxwell Hearn. Telus Centre, 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 26

crafts | **ADVENT WREATH MAKING** Nothing screams Christmas like the scent of pine needles and fresh blisters from hot glue guns. 3A St. Vital Ave., 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 27

learning | **TEA & TALK: COMFORT AND JOY** Tea is considered an old lady drink, and you'll find plenty of old bags hanging around the Rutherford House around 7 p.m. Fortunately, though, they'll be more than happy to bring you a fresh one if you ask.



Su-Kat, Azimuth Theatre, Nov. 13

crafts | November 26



NOTHING SCREAMS CHRISTMAS LIKE THE SCENT OF PINE NEEDLES AND FRESH BLISTERS FROM HOT GLUE GUNS.

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmonton

listings: city pg 20 | music pg 25 | film caps pg 34 | arts pg 41

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EVENT PREVIEW • ENVIRONMENT • BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT | 944 words

The Science Of Changing Public Opinion

DAVID SCHINDLER IS STILL DOING WHAT HE DOES BEST — BRINGING SCIENTIFIC PROOF TO THE PEOPLE

FEAR AND HAPPINESS IN THE MODERN WORLD: ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

w/ David Schindler and Edward O. Wilson. Sun, Nov 16 (7pm), Rice Theatre (The Citadel, 9828-101A Ave.). Tickets: \$18-\$28, available through the Citadel box office (425-1820)/TTX on the Square (420-1757/tixonthesquare.ca).

David Schindler has been around scientific and government circles long enough to have a sense of humour about environmental politics.

It takes at least of couple of decades for politicians to trust scientists — especially the cantankerous ones, says the Killam Memorial Chair professor of ecology at the University of Alberta.

"After they accuse you of exaggerating three or four times," he says with a chuckle, "and then find out that you were right, they tend to consult you more frequently."

After more than 40 years as a public-sector scientist, Schindler's also been around long enough to see several reversals in public opinion. When he was a kid, his dad sold DDT, a pesticide, out of a warehouse on their Minnesota farm. Near the start of his research career in the 1960s, acid rain was still considered to be an isolated problem, and Schindler had to fight to get funding to study the problem. And until his experiments on a small lake west of Dryden, Ont., phosphates were considered a magical cleaning agent and not the cause of the algae blooms that were turning lakes in the region green.

Now Schindler is best known for his research that shows Alberta is headed for 1930s-style droughts.

"There's still a lot of people in the oilsands that say we have plenty of water," he says. "That'll change."

Just A Summer Job

Schindler grew up in Barnsville, Minn., near Fargo, and the Detroit Lakes area. His father, grandfather, and two uncles ran a large farm, as well as a potato warehouse where they sold pesticides, beer and gas, and serviced automobiles.

As a child, he spent many weekends with his grandmother and uncle fishing in the nearby lakes, and had a natural love for water. But if wasn't for a summer job in North Dakota, Schindler might not have become the water scientist and public advo-

cate that he is today.

While attending Minnesota State on his way to becoming a physicist, he took a temporary job with an ecologist in North Dakota measuring the energy content in lake organisms. He became so fascinated with the ecosystem that he decided to change his major and switch schools. *Silent Spring*, Rachel Carson's landmark 1962 book, widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement, was also a turning point for him.

After receiving his PhD from Oxford as a Rhodes scholar, Schindler took his first job in Canada at Trent University in Ontario in 1966. He'd interviewed at several big American universities, but didn't relish living and raising a family in a big, polluted city.

Soon after, he joined the Fisher-

**AWARDS:
ORDER OF CANADA
STOCKHOLM WATER PRIZE
KILLAM PRIZE
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP**

ies Research Board, a now-defunct research organization funded by the federal government. The board was one of the most respected ecological management groups in the world, and offered Schindler the chance to do challenging research on Ontario lakes. However, the board was turned over to Environment Canada in 1973, and then later to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

"It was a continuous downhill slide," he says. "It was a typical civil service organization which seems to be managed to destroy employees' personality, suppress the good people — and I'm not just talking about me here — and allow the bottom of the barrel to float to the top."

Schindler left for his current position with the University of Alberta.

A Public Scientist

Schindler's commitment to releasing his studies publicly is what separates him from other scientists, says Harvey Scott, one of the founders of the Keepers of the Athabasca, a water advocacy group.

"He's not only a world-class scientist," Harvey says. "For me, what makes him stand out is that he never forgets that science should be done in the public interest."

But while Harvey says he feels indebted to Schindler for his work,

they don't agree on everything. Schindler describes Water for Life, the province's water strategy, as the direct result of the pressure he's put on the Alberta government, and something he's very proud of. However, Harvey, along with others in the Keepers group, has been very critical of the watershed groups set up under this policy. Industry and government still have far too much control of the process, Harvey says. The Keepers decided to remain apart from these groups because they view them as a waste of time.

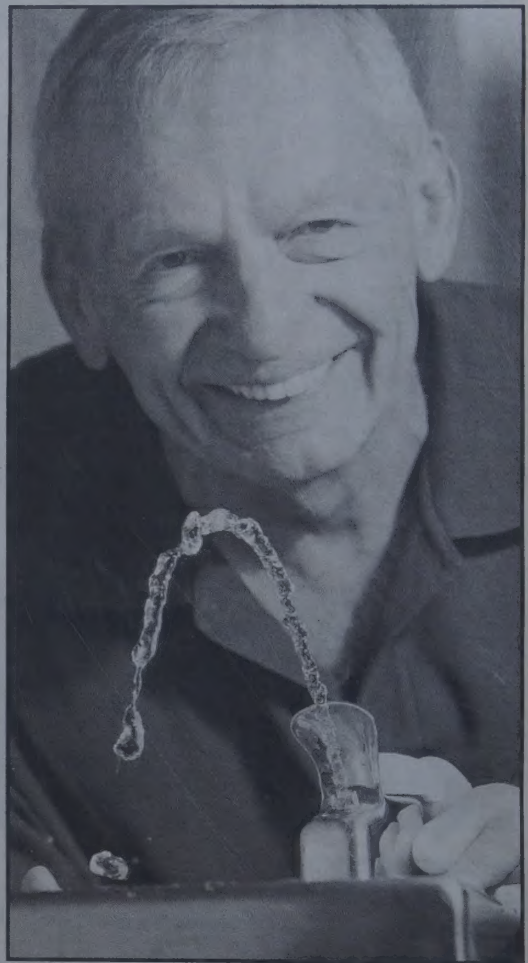
But these two men of science are hardly oceans apart on this point. One of Schindler's main criticisms of the Canadian and Alberta governments is that policy-makers don't consult with scientists enough, and even scientists within government departments do not have the kind of access to the decision-makers that they should.

In Alberta, the disconnect between science and government can be seen not only in the lack of action on water conservation, but also in the loss of biodiversity, a topic that will form a part of Schindler's upcoming panel discussion with Pulitzer Prize-winning American biologist Edward O. Wilson.

The destruction of boreal forest in order to make way for the oilsands could mean the loss of many animal species if mining practices are not changed, he says.

On this issue as well, Schindler is looking for a shift in public opinion. "I think most people think this is just greenie talk, that we are saying that the sky is falling without evidence," he says. "But there is."

abrunschot@see.greatwest.ca



Need We Say More? | Dr. David Schindler, University of Alberta ecology prof and winner of the 2008 Alberta Award of Excellence, the 2001 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold medal, and the 1991 Stockholm Water Prize. PHOTO BY MEERYL SMITH-LAWTON

NEWS BRIEFS • ANGELA BRUNSCHOT

A CALL FOR PEACE IN THE CONGO

The voices of roughly 70 members of Edmonton's Congolese community rang out over Jasper Avenue as they marched towards the legislature at the noon hour last Friday, calling for peace in the Congo, and singing. "It's a lie. If the rebels think Congo will fall, it's a lie."

The march and rally highlighted a letter the community sent to the federal government calling for Canadian intervention in the ongoing civil war.

"We have another genocide," said participant Micheline Matara. "But no one is talking about it."

On Nov. 8, the United Nation's top official in the Congo, Alan Toss, called recent killing

of civilians in the east war crimes.

According to the UN, more than a million people have been displaced.

Global relief agency International Rescue Committee says war and related displacement have killed 5.4 million people in the republic since 1988.

HONOURING THE STRAT

Although the years have worn away the pomp and importance from the Strathcona Hotel, local historians are still keen on decorating the bleak exterior of the local watering hole.

The Edmonton Historical Board has announced they will honour the humble hotel with an updated plaque, highlighting the hotel's less-than-sordid days as a ladies' college run by the Presbyterian Church from

1918 to 1924.

Indeed, the Strat has known better times. From 1891 to 1904, the hotel was the largest in the area, and an important meeting place for politicians and other sundry important folk. The Strat also served as a resting place for people coming off the train, many of them new immigrants to the west.

Other historical sites receiving plaques this year include: The Connaught Armoury on 103 Street and 85 Avenue, the John Lang Apartments on 112 Street and 99 Avenue, and the William Blakey Residence 135 Street and 101 Avenue.

Meanwhile, the nearly century-old Arlington apartments on 106 Street and 100 Avenue, a municipal historical resource, is slated for demolition.



WITNESS

NOV. 08, 2008 | 17:55:39 PM | PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON

Culinary students prepare their submissions for the 10th annual Toque Demagney culinary competition at NAIT.

OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS

EDMONTON • PORTRAIT GALLERY FRUSTRATED AMBITIONS

Plans for the National Portrait Gallery are on hold, likely never to come to fruition.

Edmontonians got their hopes up when both Qualico Developments and local architect Gene Dub placed bids to build the gallery in Edmonton. But once again, Edmonton has been disappointed.

Still, it seems strange that cancelling the project would cause such uproar (and get the front page of the *Edmonton Journal*). Even if the gallery were built, it might not have made much of an impact. Sure, it would have been a nice, prestigious addition to our downtown arts district, but would people really travel to Edmonton for a bunch of portraits of national figures? Doubtful. Would our arts scene suddenly become more vibrant? Hardly.

Edmonton should invest that money and energy into the smaller-scale projects we can do. That's what will make us a more vibrant, livable city.

ALBERTA • GIVING LOWERED EXPECTATIONS

A tightening of the pursestrings in Alberta has lotteries fearing they will not be able to donate enough money to charities this year.

If it were any other kind of business, the slight dampening of expectations would be understandable, if not desirable.

But the whole point of most lotteries is charity.

In the case of the Changing Lives Provincial Lottery, spending \$25, \$100, or even \$200 on a bunch of tickets not only buys a chance at winning iPods and plasma TVs, it's also supposed to give the buyer a sense of beneficence.

After all, if they lose, the money goes to deserving groups like Big Brothers and Sisters and the Kids Kottage Society.

It's too bad charities feel they need to invest in high-priced prizes and lots of advertising in order to lure people into giving, especially considering how much those kinds of activities can cost.

CANADA • ELECTIONS BOOSTING VOTER TURNOUT

Elections Canada should be praised for looking at how to better reach voters.

The government agency will spend \$900,000 on surveys, including \$25,000 specifically on how to reach Aboriginal peoples, youth, and other groups known for their infrequent trips to the ballot box, according to the *Canadian Press*.

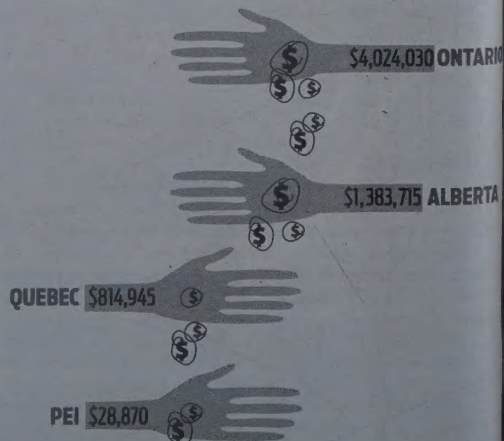
Some MPs are railing about misuse of taxpayer dollars, but considering that free elections are the cornerstone of our society and that we are seeing fewer and fewer people recognize that fact, \$900,000 seems like a piddling sum to look into the situation.

After all, only 59 per cent of Canadians voted in the 2008 election, the lowest on record.

Elections Alberta should take note. In the last provincial election, the Blood and Piikani aboriginal groups didn't even have their own polling station, and had to drive to the nearest town.

BY THE NUMBERS

GENEROUS CANADIANS
 AMOUNT DONATED TO REGISTERED CHARITIES IN 2007, IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS
*SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA, BASED ON INCOME TAX DATA



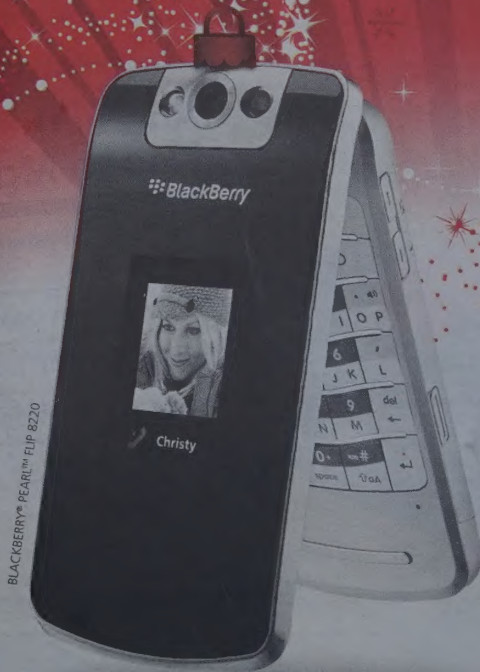
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Outside Politics, Quick-Fire Edition



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TOUGAS OFFERS UP SOME
BITE-SIZED RANTS

This is my 12th column for *SEE Magazine* — a landmark, to be sure — which seems like as good a time as any to do one of those half-baked odds 'n' ends columns about different topics with no common element. When I wrote for the *Examiner*, I called them "Nobody Asked Me, But ...," and they were hugely popular — at least with me, because they were a lot easier to write. Now that I'm writing for an alternative paper, where the use of what used to be called obscenities (do they even exist anymore?) is allowed, I am now free to cut loose, free from the constraints of bourgeois community standards. I feel so liberated!

So buckle up, folks, for the first edi-

tion of an occasional column called "What the hell?"

(Yes, I am aware I can get much more, shall we say, descriptive in my language. But I'm more of a 14A kind of guy, as opposed to an 18A or an R.)

MORE BLASPHEMY

In Afghanistan, a journalism student named Sayed Perwez Kambakhsh has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for blasphemy. By Afghan standards, this is progress; he was originally sentenced to death.

What the hell?

Kambakhsh's crime — sorry, that should be "crime" — was downloading an article from the Internet that questioned some of the tenets of Islam, and then bringing up the offending points in class. Now, we've all been in a class where we've wanted to hang some incessant loudmouth, but c'mon.

I've long been a supporter of our efforts in Afghanistan. It's easy to forget that Afghanistan was home base for the 9/11 terrorists, and much of the Western world joined in a coalition to oust the Taliban from power. Unlike the fiasco of Iraq, it can be argued that the Afghanistan war was,

and still is, justified. But good Lord we've lost 97 Canadian soldiers — I pray that number does not rise between the time I write these words and the day they go into print — and have spent some \$18 billion on the war effort.

Can someone tell me why are we sending people to fight and die for a country that sentences people to jail or death for blasphemy? What a terrible insult to the memories of Canadian soldiers who died in that Godforsaken hellhole, and the tens of thousands of Canadians who died in the world wars.

BOTTLES AND CANS

The province has upped the deposit on bottles and cans to encourage more people to recycle, while giving hobos a much-needed boost in income. As well, they've added milk containers to the deposit-return system. Beginning next year, milk cartons will have deposits of 10 cents for a litre or less, 25 cents for anything over that.

Who exactly was asking for this? Here in Edmonton, we can put our milk cartons into the recycling system. It works great, but apparently not all Albertans are as advanced

as we are. So now, on top of the pop cans and beer cans and juice boxes and sundry other containers than now take up 75 per cent of my garage space, I now have to add milk containers — sour, smelly milk containers.

I have three sons who drink a fair amount of milk, as long as it is mixed liberally with Froot Loops, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Cap'n Crunch or all three together. We go through a lot of milk, and adding milk jugs to my recycling pile means even more trips to my already overburdened bottle depot, meaning more frequent and even longer lineups at bottle depots. And there is nothing the average citizen loves more than going to a bottle depot.

SHERIFF EDDIE

Premier Ed Stelmach has been throwing money at crime lately.

What the hell? Who appointed Eddie Sheriff-in-Chief?

Stelmach has made a big deal about attacking gangs, spending millions on specialized gang units and other big-ticket initiatives. Stelmach is big on crime these days. Listening to a milquetoast like Stelmach doing his Dirty Harry impression was one of

the comedy highlights of the year.

Interesting isn't it, how Stelmach is making all major announcements these days? Could it be that Eddie knows his lugubrious Solicitor General, Fred Lindsay, or Alison "I Cut My Own Hair" Redford are so weak that even he looks dynamic by comparison?

POSTING BOND

Did you hear the one about the terror suspect who was ordered deported from the country, went underground, was caught, then released?

Seriously, this is true. A guy named Baljit Ram was identified as a member of a banned terrorist group back in 1998, and was ordered out of the country. He ignored the order and continued to live in Canada until he was stabbed near Surrey on Sept. 30.

The RCMP discovered he was the subject of an outstanding deportation order, and they handed him over to Canadian Border Services commissioners.

You know where this is going, don't you? Yep, he posted a \$5,000 bond, and was released.

Again I say: What the hell?

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Canada

Games of
La Francophonie

Lebanon 2009

The Canadian delegation at the Games of La Francophonie is made up of three distinct teams: Canada, Canada-Quebec and Canada-New Brunswick. Professional artists under 35 years of age as of September 27, 2009, have a Canadian citizenship and are interested in representing Team Canada in the cultural competitions, should register now.

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Canada



MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS - PROFILE - BY MICHAEL HINGSTON / 1,500 words

Wallis | Wallis Kendal outside the Human Youth Society. PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON

SERVICE

A LIFE SPENT IN

WALLIS KENDAL HELPS NEEDY CITY YOUTH WALK THE SLOW ROAD TO RECOVERY

Wallis Kendal's cell phone never quite makes it back into his pocket. In 15 minutes, the renowned Edmonton artist and youth activist receives (and answers) no less than six calls. He doesn't apologize for taking the calls, even though he knows they will each require his full attention for several minutes.

This, he assures me, is a typical day. And he's not being rude – it's part of his job.

Kendal is a co-founder of the iHuman Youth Society, a non-profit organization that helps high-risk Edmonton youth use art as a means of social integration. His schedule is hectic and unpredictable, usually spanning several hours a day and always spanning seven days a week.

The title on his business card reads "Youth Outreach," and Kendal does everything that that broad term encompasses: picking kids up from court or jail, making sure the iHuman studio is properly stocked with art supplies, and generally acting as a confidant for hundreds of youth who wouldn't otherwise have one.

"I'm like a father, in a sense, to all the kids – even the guys," he says. "Because I'm the guy they can talk to, without any reservation. They feel comfortable because they know I'm not like a social worker, who says, 'If you hit me, I'm charging you with assault.' That's not the way we function here. It's an equal sport. Kids can tell me if they're pissed off at me."

In addition to the long hours he puts in at and around the studio, he makes his cell phone number widely available to his clientele, and they are clearly not shy about using it. That doesn't leave much personal time for Kendal, who lives alone.

But Kendal is good on the phone. In each of the calls his tone is always warm, his voice even and reassuring. He asks, "So what's the situation?" Then, after a pause: "With your life?"

Art From The Start

Kendal first got involved working with youth as a teenager, when he worked for the City of Edmonton teaching arts and crafts at playgrounds after school. A gifted artist himself, he attended the University of Alberta, where he pursued art but was also increasingly drawn to education and psychology – specifically the concept of cognitive dissonance.

"It's a very strange philosophy," he says. "Dissonance is when you get uncomfortable with an action: you're walking down the street and you see a dog. You're afraid of the dog, so

you cross to the other side. You avoid the encounter, because that's dissonance. So if somebody's got troubles, I can take that dissonance and I can usually flipside it and make it into a creative exercise."

After receiving an honours degree in education, he became a junior high school teacher in the early 1970s. But it didn't last: a combination of his overly progressive teaching style and butting heads with the administration led him back to university for a master's degree – but he eventually abandoned that too, after making similarly vocal protests about the program's organization.

Throughout, he kept at his art, eventually publishing a novel, writing plays, painting, designing children's toys, and travelling the world.

In 1999, Kendal and fellow artist Sandra Bromley finished *The Gun Sculpture*, a massive prison cell-like structure made of 7,000 deactivated guns and other weapons acquired from all over the globe. The project took more than five years to complete – two years planning, two years making contacts, raising funds,

A Hive Of Activity

The current iHuman studio is a modest, one-storey brick building on the edge of Chinatown. It's on a fairly quiet block, but inside is a hive of activity: some kids are using sewing machines, some are making use of the four well-equipped recording studios, and a dozen others are just sitting around, hanging out. A stereo plays at full volume on a nearby table. The painting area, fashion room, and kitchen are empty at the moment, but all show signs of recent activity. The walls are covered with paintings done by iHuman clients, and big signs around the studio announce the only rules: "NO DEALING AND NO VIOLENCE."

The most popular activity for guys is music – either rapping, singing, or producing. For the girls, it's fashion. They have access to a roomful of materials, as well as cutting-edge music programs like Logic and Reason. Kendal says that hands-on experience is as an added bonus to the recovery process.

"We're not only giving them the gift of art – we're giving them train-

society. All the good stuff you want in a person is there, they all have it, but to get to that stage is a long-term process. We've sent one guy to treatment eight times, and this is the first time he's ever been clean more than three months in his lifetime."

Maturity At Any Age

Kendal won't reveal how old he is, not even to the kids. He has grey hair and more than his share of wrinkles, but these could easily be side effects of his work ethic. Kendal believes it's critical for the youth to see him as a peer, without being reminded of the potential half-century that separates their birthdays. This is particularly important, he says, when dealing with a society that has rigid expectations for maturity.

"Age, to me, is a very irrelevant topic," he says. "A girl or guy who starts using hard drugs at 12 years of age, to be honest with you, will stay around 12 until the time that they stop drugs, and then the maturity will kick back in. That's what people don't realize."

"We use chronological age to say

"He's been a good mentor – almost like a father figure, you know?" says Geli Bean, 24. She came to Edmonton after being banned from her reserve as a teenager and now works at iHuman as a program facilitator. "If I needed help or anything like that, he was always there. He was one person I knew that I wasn't afraid to call."

The Slow Road

Kendal says that he has no intention of retiring from iHuman anytime soon, but after nearly a decade he is showing signs of slowing down. Earlier this month he hired a new youth outreach worker to take some of the strain off him, allowing him to focus on night work, which is what he prefers doing.

"I don't know if it'll be the same if he ever dies or goes away," Gabe says. "It'll be really hard to keep it up."

"I'm constantly exploited," Kendal admits with his characteristic gruff laugh. "Let's get real. I'm exploited for helping a kid out with some money for food. I'm exploited in helping a kid get medicine. I'm exploited for lots of little financial things. I'm exploited for my time – a kid will phone me and say, 'I need help,' but really what they need is for me to be a taxi service, and take them from point A to point B."

Sometimes, Kendal dutifully gets into his car to pick the kid up anyway, because it presents an opportunity to gain insight into their life. "I'm the guy they can talk to, without any reservation," he says.

"They can tell me anything and it's going to stay with me. It's not going to go down the road, and it's not going to cause them trouble. I get to see the inside glimpse."

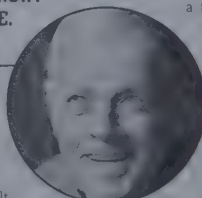
Much of Kendal and iHuman's efforts are focused on changing society's perceptions toward youth, addiction, and the very process of recovery and integration. Their progress is slow, he says, but necessarily so.

"We don't want anyone to get the illusion that we have masses of kids lined up here, we're processing them, and doing magical things to a group at a time," he says. "When you have this kind of individual, it has to be one on one."

Kendal describes his work as giving them an opportunity to be important, to communicate their feelings either in art or conversation. For kids who have been abused and left without parental support, it's a process that takes years.

"It's invisible to most people, because nobody sees results five years down the road," he says. "But we do. We see results everywhere."

"HE'S BEEN A GOOD MENTOR – ALMOST LIKE A FATHER FIGURE, YOU KNOW? IF I NEEDED HELP OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, HE WAS ALWAYS THERE. HE WAS ONE PERSON I KNEW THAT I WASN'T AFRAID TO CALL."



as well as gaining police and customs approval, and then a year and change in construction.

The Gun Sculpture has since toured around the world, and has brought Kendal and Bromley international acclaim, as well as the City of Edmonton's Salute to Excellence Arts Award in 2000. That same year it was shown as part of the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, and at Expo 2000 in Hanover, Germany (where it drew the praise of Prince Edward and Carlos Santana, among others). In 2001, it sat in the lobby of the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

It was after the *The Gun Sculpture* premiered at the Edmonton Art Gallery that Kendal and Bromley were approached by a group of local street youth who had seen their picture in the newspaper. The project's anti-violence message resonated with them, and they insisted Kendal and Bromley help them get their own project made.

This piece, a collection of first-person stories entitled *The Red Tear*, was then incorporated into and exhibited alongside *The Gun Sculpture*.

Kendal says that seeing these youth, with so much passion but lacking the necessary resources and direction, is where the idea for iHuman was born.

ing," he says. "It's a huge gift to give. And we don't expect everyone to come out as a fashion designer or an artist. That's not the point of it. But we expect them to learn something about themselves and get their voice out. What we're trying to do is keep the storytelling going."

iHuman allows high-risk youth to express themselves through art, helping them reconnect with society and nurturing their sense of self-worth. The society encourages clients to access available treatment and support programs – for issues ranging from substance abuse to prostitution – but it is not mandatory.

Most clients have legal trouble, and little or no family support. Many are in government care, and Kendal himself is the guardian of three iHuman clients.

The key to iHuman's approach is giving users continued support once their treatment is finished, and when they find themselves in the same circumstances that led to addiction in the first place.

It's an investment that Kendal believes makes financial as well as moral sense.

"Every kid that recovers – to put a monetary value on it – is worth millions of dollars," he says.

"There's no cost to the government anymore. They contribute to

that when a child is 18, they're good to go – they're ready for the adult market. It doesn't work in this field. That's why we work from 12 years to 24 years. I think iHuman was the first society to start this, and all over Canada now, everybody's working with kids up to 24 and calling them youth. That's one of the breakthrough things that we did."

It's an idea that resonates with iHuman clients, past and present.

Gabe, 23, first came to iHuman and met Kendal when she was 19, and caught up with crime and selling drugs. They got along right away, and before long she was using the studio to work on designing her own clothes. Eventually she took a job there, though she has since stopped to pursue fashion and music on her own.

"[Wallis is] amazing," she says. "We're, like, best friends. There's nobody like him. [This is] an art centre that deals with the worst of the worst. Criminals nobody wants to look at. And how it functions, it's just amazing. You barely ever have problems. It's a mutually respected place. And those were his ideas, and his concepts, that he created."

LIFESTYLE • SERVING • BY JESSICA EARLE | 993 words

The Secret And Saucy Lives Of Barkeeps

WHAT KEEPS SOME SERVERS DOING THEIR DEMANDING JOB FOR DECADES? THERE’S MORE TO IT THAN JUST THE TIPS

In the cleverly-titled albeit lowbrow movie *Waiting*, the server characters are depicted as a group of listless youth whose lives consist of making a quick buck, partying, and waiting around for some life plan to kick them out of their collective rut.

Of course, there will always be a cohort of newly-anointed adults reeling in their post-post-sec crises instead of making life decisions.

But what about those servers who stay in the industry long after they’ve surmounted those existential hurdles? Once they’ve more or less embarked on a life path? What keeps them on the job when they no longer necessarily need cash? Two longtime servers, a restaurant owner, and a social psychologist weigh in.

Andrea Dorrans — who works by day as an editor of a local magazine — has been waiting tables for close to a decade.

She’s attracted to serving because combining it with writing lets her keep a dynamic schedule that prevents burnout, not to mention stave off the doldrums of a nine-to-five existence. After fighting with words all day, tending to the triage of tables is almost like pressing a reset button for her.

“It gets pretty down and dirty,” says Dorrans about serving shifts. People tend to come to restaurants in clusters, throwing staff into states alternately known as the Juice, Whit-eout, or the Weeds.

While it’s easy to get flustered during these rushes (and start peppering desserts or pouring water into white wineglasses), getting everything done requires going on autopilot for a while. It’s a type of escape many servers come to crave.

“There are times when you’re so busy it’s kind of like a battlefield,” Dorrans says. She thinks getting through the stress is what creates such a strong sense of community in restaurants. It leads most workers to cap off their busy shift or stressful week with post-work drinks.

“I’ve never met a server that doesn’t drink, not one, and I’ve met hundreds of servers,” says Jordan Smith, who’s been waiting tables for the last eight years.

Smith says a lot of people stay in the industry because it couches a strong socializing opportunity in an atmosphere of productivity; people

can party without feeling guilty because they’re raking in money at the same time. After shift, servers repeatedly indulge in — or fall prey to — the same enticing situation.

“You’re there, you’re in a place with alcohol, it’s 12:30 or 1, so you’re not usually in a rush to get somewhere else, and there’s often nowhere else to go.”

In a society where going out for a night on the town can put people seriously in the red, after-work drinks in the serving industry provide an opportunity for impromptu hang-outs that don’t require Herculean planning or funds.

“My social existence happens from 5 p.m. until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturdays,” says Smith, who is busy being a full-time teacher, husband, father, and all-around responsible adult the rest of the week.

Problem is: servers often take the partying too far. The catharsis valve of the restaurant industry can send many workers spiraling into an alcohol — or drug-fuelled vortex.

Jeff Schimel, a social and cultural psychology professor at the University of Alberta, thinks there are two main reasons for this.

First, servers can amass considerable money in a short period of time — Dorrans says she averages between \$100-\$200 in tips in a typical five-hour shift. Since employees usually walk away with hard cash, the funds are instantly gratifying — it’s easy to get impulsive and blow it all on partying.

Second, Schimel says after-shift servers may be reacting to the self-discipline necessary to succeed in a tip-dependent industry.

“It requires a lot of self-regulation,” he says. “The whole time [servers] are on shift... they’re suppressing the natural reactions they’d have to outrageous requests that customers sometimes make, in the service of getting better tips.”

He says after servers spend extensive time moulding themselves to the cues of their tables, it makes sense they feel drained and want to let loose.

“There’s quite a bit of research showing that after people have exerted mental effort through self-regulation,” Schimel says, “they’re much more likely to drink alcohol, they’re less likely to restrain themselves, [and] they’re less likely to delay gratification.”

The owner of a casual fine-dining restaurant in town (who asked not to be named) often opens his bar the



Drinking, Dining, And Debauchery | There are some things about serving that make it more enticing than the regular 9-5 slog. PHOTO SUPPLIED

morning after servers get into the sauce. For him, the restaurant industry is both passion and a career, but he’s seen too many workers get into a serving stupor that doesn’t help them get on with their lives when they need to. “If [they] don’t get out in time... they get depressed,” he says.

Eventually the lack of accountability that draws so many to the industry can prevent growth. “You can work with someone for five, 10 years, and they don’t change.”

But nature abhors a vacuum, and sometimes it’s worth making the

push to get out. Dorrans, for example, literally walked off one job after putting in a year and a half of service.

While she’s feeling the loss, she’s been at this crossroads before, and knows it’s just the way the industry works.

“Take it for what it is,” she advises.

“It’s a pleasure, and then things turn as they do.”

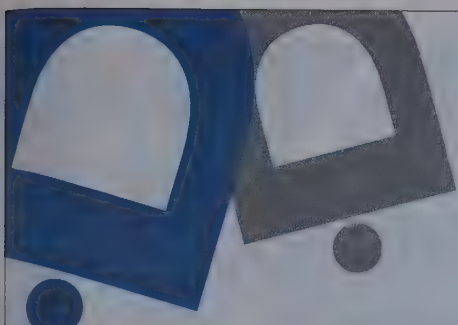
But she’s not ready to throw in her apron just yet. She considers serving “a productive use of my spare time,” and she’s been doing it for so long that she feels uncomfortable having

a Friday night off. She’ll soon seek another serving fix.

In a similar vein, Smith says he has a few more years left in him.

“If I ever hit a strain of wear where I’m not looking forward to going in, then I know I’m done,” he says. But he doesn’t see that happening anytime soon. The setup is just too sweet.

“Serving is... a tension release and a bit of escape to social life that one can question,” he says. “You can’t get mad at someone for going out and earning some extra money two nights a week.”



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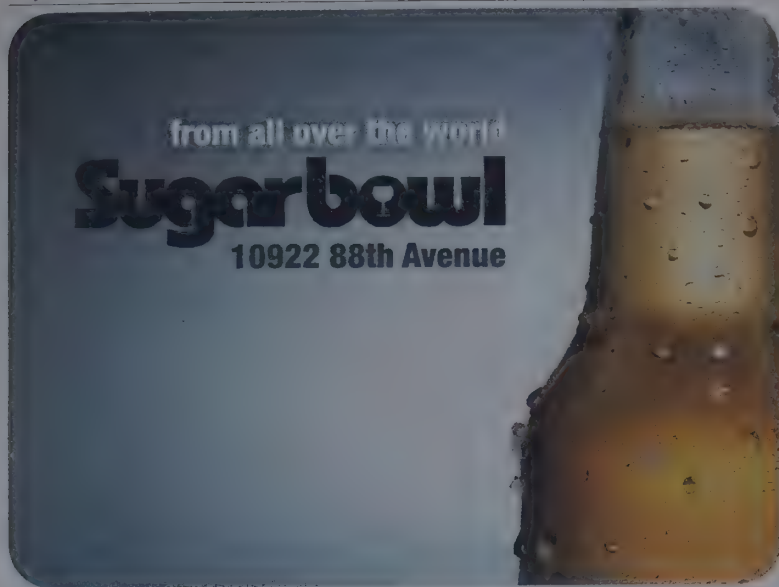
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myLook

Jessica Dombro | Credit Administrator

BY FAWNDA MITHRUSH

My Look: Deadpan Awkward.

Hair: I did it myself. The green in it is Manic Panic from Culture Crazie.

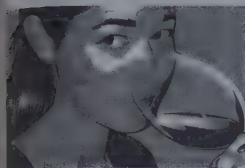
Wearing: My shirt is from West Ed, one of those Urban-named stores. I got the pants as a hand-me-down from my sister. The shoes are Payless, and the necklace is from Culture Crazie. The bag is from Mexx. The rose is from my boyfriend; the cats destroyed the flowers that were on the vanity, so this is a replacement flower.

Into: I watch movies and I type a lot. I do that as my job as well. Nerd stuff. I read.

Want to be in My Look? Send your photo to style@see.greatwest.ca.

IMBIBING • WINTER BEER | 681 words

Time To Bring On The Extra Calories



BOOZE MUSE MELISSA PRIESTLEY
DARKER, WINTER BEERS
MIGHT GO STRAIGHT TO YOUR
HIPS, BUT IT'S WORTH THAT
EXTRA LAYER OF INSULATION

It's natural to associate a frosty beer with summertime — it's the beverage of choice for beaches and barbecues alike. Most drinkers associate warm weather with lager or something related (pilsener, wheat beer, pissy domestic swill, etc.). While these pale beers are certainly thirst-quenching, they lose their appeal quickly when the thermometer plunges below zero.

The average liquor store stocks far more lager pops than anything of a darker hue. This may be fine at the height of summer, but that case of Corona looks far less appealing when you have to carry it through two-foot-

tall snowdrifts, the icy wind knitting your eyelashes together.

But the beer world is large, despite the impression chain liquor stores leave you with. Good winter beers may be served at cool temperatures, but they will warm you up with their dark, rich, full-bodied palates. I guarantee that a more thorough search of any beer cooler will yield at least a few examples of stouts, porters, strong ales, barleywines, and sometimes even Belgian and German specialty dark brews like dubbel, trippel, and weizenbock. These beers are often sold in large-format single bottles, though some of the more common brands can be found in four- and six-packs.

Dark beers are dominated by malt rather than hops, so they tend to be sweeter and less astringent than lagers, India pale ales, pilseners, and the like. They range in colour from dark brown, red, and even black, with tan-coloured head. Common aromas include dark chocolate, coffee, plum, spice, wood, and earth; a decidedly yeasty component is often present in the European brews. The flavours usually echo these aromas, and the

mouthfeel is full and creamy.

It's assumed that because dark beers have such an intense flavour they must be high in alcohol. While they do tend to have more kick than the average five per cent lager, they aren't usually much stronger. The perceived strength comes from the very full body — I often joke that a pint of Guinness is equivalent to a big hunk of chocolate cake. (It's got about the same number of calories, at any rate.) While these beers typically won't knock you on your ass as much as you'd expect, it pays to check the label before you pound back that entire 750mL bottle, as brews reaching 10 per cent are by no means uncommon.

Dark beers should be served slightly warmer than lighter beers to bring out their complex flavours — but don't serve them too warm, especially if they're higher in alcohol, as warmth will exacerbate the booze burn. As well, if a particularly inky brew happens to assault your tastebuds too much (these beers have balls, especially for the novice) try having it with food. After all, you'll need that extra layer of fat to stay

warm, so you might as well pack in some extra calories.

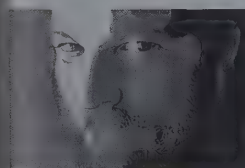
Though it may seem an unexpected choice to us landlocked Albertans, the best partner to a dark beer is shellfish: the salty sea tang of oysters, mussels, and clams is the perfect foil to a sweet, rich stout or porter. Dark beer and cheese — also an overlooked but often phenomenal pairing, especially smoked cheeses like gruyere, applewood cheddar, and gouda. And just like a full-bodied red wine, full-bodied dark beer pairs well with red meat, especially sausage and cold cuts. Sweeter beers can also accompany dessert — I dare you to try a chocolate stout with chocolate cake.

One last note: in keeping with the

rampant marketing of the Christmas season, you're bound to encounter some winter-themed variety packs. For the most part, these are not really winter beers — they're simply collections of the same old mass-produced crap, repackaged with snowflakes or ribbons on the boxes. The big corporations like Sleeman's and Big Rock usually release one of these every year. However, some breweries do release appropriately full-bodied dark beers in the winter season, so stick with the smaller breweries and you're usually safe. Edmonton's Alley Kat crafts a unique winter brew every year, as does Anchor Brewing (whose Christmas Ale is packed with all the holiday cheer of savoury spice and a wallop of alcohol).

CITY LIVES • ELECTION FALLOUT | 540 words

I Got An E-Mail From The President



HIDDEN NINJA FISH GRWIKOWSKY
OBAMARAMA IS STILL RAGING,
AND WE HOPE IT DOESN'T STOP
UNTIL THINGS CHANGE. LIKE,
REALLY CHANGE.

"I'm about to head to Grant Park to talk to everyone gathered there," U.S. president-elect Barack Obama wrote to millions of others and me in a mass e-mail last week, "but I wanted to write to you first."

We just made history. And I don't want you to forget how we did it. We have a lot of work to do to get our country back on track, and I'll be in touch soon about what comes next."

Holy shit, he just might! That last sentence contains one of the most magnificent ideas using one of the most revolutionary uses of technology in history: direct communication from an incoming world leader. Spam you can get behind. As Bono said at a concert the night Bill Clinton first got elected, "Let's

hope you're half the man we think you are."

The first glaring thing I noticed when Obama got elected was a sharp dropoff in my daily e-mails. To fulfill John McCain's greatest fears about not knowing exactly who had been contributing to the mixed-race candidate's campaign, I can safely say that there are people up in Canada who donated small amounts of money to Obama's campaign. Good-looking folks who, instead of putting — say, er — my address, used a fake one in the States.

But the thing about this American election was, like the two before it, this was successively the most important one in history. Further on the subject, it was the most internationally watched one, if only in terms of all-important optics.

Instantly, like it or not, the ethnic flavour of the new president made America less of a terrorist target from any number of agendas. So while it's true there are office pools about how long it will take some Klansman type whose wife either did or did not throw the TV out the window on Nov. 4 to try and assassinate the greatest community organizer in American history, certain arguments are now officially over. For example,

Morrissey's lyrics that it's "where the president is never black, female, or gay" are suddenly as dated as the U.S.S.R. cosmonauts in Arthur C. Clark's 2010.

What I fell down on the streets in the U.S. was no different from what any number of you felt up here: relief. But also, a sudden sense of possibility. Global, personal — it doesn't matter. Hope, not fear. Issues like Guantanamo Bay, the bullshit ban on Cuba, rebuilding Louisiana, and even getting more spaceships on Mars all seem discussable again. By apologizing for his future mistakes, he outmaneuvered Bush as a gentleman by at least seven years.

But most importantly, via these e-mails, the man has a direct line into the attention of his supporters — people who have already worked hard to get him in place. He must use it. Must. If he manages to continue organizing and asking for help, for the poor, for the troops, for anything that could use help fixing from his people in great numbers, and appealing to people's decency instead of numb patriotism, well, America could really boast being the greatest country in the world. In other words, we could learn a lesson from them, in a good way. Damn!

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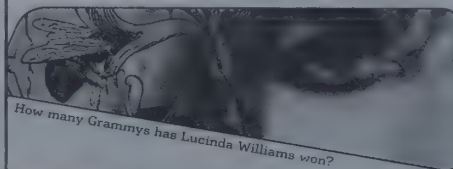
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10802-124 St., 780-488-1590

THE TAB: \$41 for two (food only)**THE GIST:** Samich joint does gourmet**TRY:** Caramelized onion and roasted tomato pizza (\$12)

THE COPPER POT

101, 9707-110 St., 452-7800

THE TAB: \$67 for two (food only)**THE GIST:** fabulous new menu, great view, a casual-wish night out**TRY:** Braised Bison Short Ribs and House Made Duck Sausage (\$30)**AVOID:** The Politicians

EL RANCHO SPANISH RESTAURANT

11810-87 St., 780-471-4930

THE TAB: \$33 for two (food only)**THE GIST:** solid Mexi-Salvatorean fare, nice room, indifferent service**TRY:** The Enchilada Mexicana (\$10.95)**BEWARE:** Mathematical errors

MASALAZ

4218-66 St., 780-484-0582

THE TAB: \$28 for two (food only)**THE GIST:** Affordable, authentic south Indian cuisine, strip-mall ambience**TRY:** The masala dosa with sambar (\$6.99)**AVOID:** The table near the entrance

SUSHI WASABI

5714-111 St., 780-433-0533

THE TAB: \$50 for two (food only)**THE GIST:** Piece for piece, the best raw fish in town**TRY:** The assorted sushi or sashimi**AVOID:** The construction on 111th Street

DINING • BURGERS • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 861 words

The Great Silk Hat Facelift



Why, That's A Lovely New Hat | It sure is a change from the Silk's old jukeboxes and fluorescents. PHOTO BY MERVY SMITH/LANSON

THE OLD HAT IS GONE, BUT THE GORGEOUS NEW HAT WILL FILL YOUR TUMMY WITH BEER AND BEEF JUST AS WELL

THE HAT RESTO PUB

10251 Jasper Ave., 780-429-4471

Anyone who ever ate at the old Silk Hat, with its unpretended retro atmosphere — right down to the cloudy glass case under the till, full of Wrigley's Juicy Fruit and Doublemint — will tell you the diner that occupied that spot on Jasper for most of the 20th century and much of the 21st (so far) was often an interesting experience.

The food was honest — fat and carb-intensive without reservation, proudly grubby comfort food at its finest — and the waitstaff bore a close enough resemblance to your

handsome, with high tables, wall-length bench seating, bar-side service, stylish servers in kitschy get-ups, and lunch-hour drink specials.

Which is great. A couple of pals and I managed to skate in just ahead of a lunch rush and grab the last unreserved table on a Thursday noon hour. Let me say up front that for such a busy place, the service was pleasant and quite attentive about keeping coffees and waters filled, as well as getting our order right. In a busy resto pub, when you're on a tight schedule, the value of such things cannot be underrated.

The new Hat lunch menu is pretty much salads, appetizers, and burgers — many, many varieties of burger — so if you don't think you'll want anything like that, you might want to consider one of Jasper Avenue's other diners. So we had burgers. One

impatience regarding the impending arrival of her burger but, again, the entire meal successfully transpired within the working stiff's permitted lunch hour. And certainly our meals had been worth waiting for when they arrived — big, well-dressed burgers with healthy sides.

The impatient one among us found her appetite overmatched by the blue cheese burger and its lode of crisp-fried onions and avocado slices, which came with a large bale of skinny golden fries and julienned coleslaw ingredients (without that fattening coleslaw dressing). The non-impatient one, on the other hand, had no problem downing a sizable beef patty topped with cheddar and fresh loops of dark green jalapeño and didn't even break a sweat.

My burger, which was the least like a burger, featured a grilled Por-

THE TAB: \$49.25 FOR THREE (FOOD ONLY)**THE GIST: EDMONTON GREASY-SPoon LANDMARK GOES UPSCALE****TRY: THE BURGERS!****BEWARE: THE STICKER SHOCK**

hard-working, chain-smoking aunt that they had full licence to call you "dear."

I have to admit it had been a while since I'd plunked down to a hot turkey sandwich with mashed at the Silk Hat when I noticed its windows all covered with paper, but I still got me a pang of sadness in my heart that such an evocative remnant of Edmonton history wasn't around for future generations to experience.

However you felt about the place, you're unlikely to feel like the newly opened burger bar that's popped in the Silk Hat's vacuum bears much relation to its predecessor. The Hat Resto and Pub is much darker, for starters — gone are the eye-scalding fluorescents that gave egg yolks an unappetizing greenish tinge, away with the leatherette booths, institutional paint job, and formerly shiny surfaces that made the Silk Hat feel a bit like a bowling alley snack bar.

The new Hat is deep, dark, and

co-diner had the blue cheese burger (\$14.25), the other asked for a jalapeño cheddar burger (\$14.25) — both had fries — and I ordered a Portobello burger (\$12.25) with salad with house vinaigrette. Keen to go beyond burgers, we thought we'd share an order of Blue Cheese Caps (\$9.50) to start.

Instead, we shared an order of Blue Cheese Cap — one mushroom cap that would have fit in the palm of my hand, baked with crabmeat, blue and cheddar cheese, and plenty o' garlic served over a handful of mixed greens. The crab was only really available to visual inspection since, among the more pronounced flavours of blue cheese and garlic, it didn't stand out much. The lack of individual portions may have made this appetizer appear smaller than it actually was, but in any event it was quickly devoured.

One of us was perhaps a little overhung and expressed a certain

tobello mushroom cap, a slather of red pepper cream cheese, red onion, and greens, though these constituents were dwarfed by the hand-filled whole wheat bun in which they were contained. I had my own heap of shredded cabbage, carrots, and red onion on the side, plus a heap of fresh mixed greens which bore only the merest hint of house vinaigrette — rather how I like it, actually. All the same, I coveted my co-diners' more substantial entrées.

In all, it's nice to see the Hat buzzing with lunch-hour activity as its namesake was so often in its 80-plus years of operation. It would have been even nicer to see more old-school diner staples on its bill of fare, as well as more variety in terms of price point, but the service was good and the food was decent. The final bill was enough to persuade me that I wouldn't eat at the Hat every day — would not rule out, however, the possibility of eating there again.

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the owner, one of the dogs was microchipped so we were able to contact them, but it's always hard to tell an owner that their animal has been found and that it's deceased. That was a hard file, and something that was definitely out of the ordinary.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

I'd have to say paperwork. I really enjoy going out and talking to the public and doing education with schools and children, and dealing with the different scenarios that come up. I really enjoy my job. There are a few things that are unfortunate, like the long hours and the copious amounts of paperwork we have and staffing is a problem, but overall it's an absolutely wonderful job.

What kind of animals do you have?

Right now I have a foster dog through a program we have here at the humane society where we can foster animals that are in need, either for socialization or perhaps recovery due to an injury. At this particular time I have an animal that is recovering from an injury. I also have a couple of my own dogs. It's just great to help out a dog and then return him so he can be adopted.

What happened to him?

Unfortunately he was stabbed. So he had to have surgery to repair the injury. Fortunately he was already neutered so we didn't have to worry about that part, and now he's just recovering.

Joann Green | Peace Officer, Edmonton Humane Society (Animal Protection Department)

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN

Q&As WITH EDMONTONIANS BY ANDREW PAUL

15 minutes

What kind of animals do you deal with?

Anything that falls within the city of Edmonton is under our jurisdiction. Mostly it's companion animals; however, we've been out to livestock calls as well as exotic animals like reptiles and that sort of thing. We also monitor circus acts that come into the city, the CFR (Canadian Finals Rodeo) and when they're here, the chuckwagons. We also monitor and do a yearly inspection of West Edmonton Mall, as well as the Valley Zoo. So

we are exposed to a wide range of animals.

What does a typical workday look like for you?

Our general position is the enforcement of the Animal Protection Act. We are ensuring that animals have adequate food, water, shelter, and necessary veterinary care. We also investigate complaints of animal cruelty. We do pet store inspections for the safety of the animals to ensure there's no

overcrowding.

How often do you get complaints?

It varies. There are a large number of pet stores in the city of Edmonton, and we do go to each one on a monthly basis. So we hope that helps to maintain a level that's acceptable to the public in the presentation of the animals and the conditions they're kept in. So we get one, perhaps two per month.

What are some of the more oddball calls you get?

One of the most distressing calls I've been on was the two dogs that were found deceased in a lake within the city. It was both a physically hard job for us to move the animals from the lake. There were horrendous odours due to the advanced decomposition of the dogs, and the frustrations that go along with the investigation. Unfortunately, we haven't turned up any viable leads. Fortunately for

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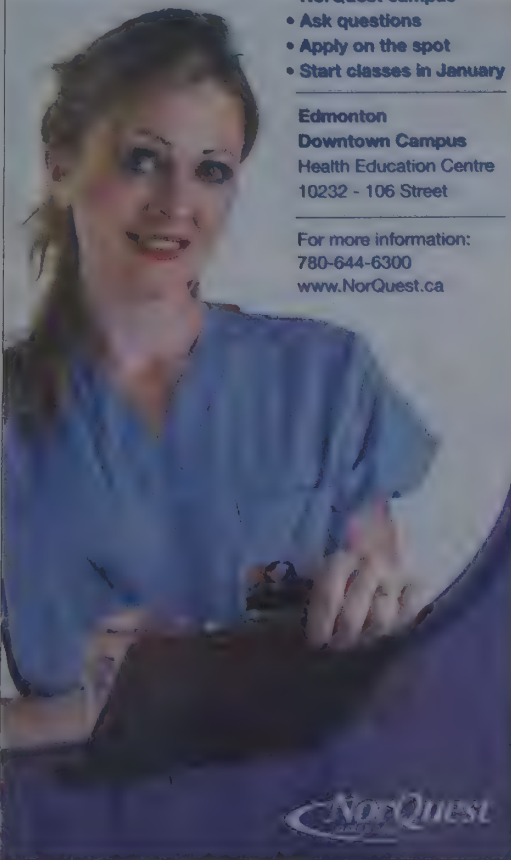
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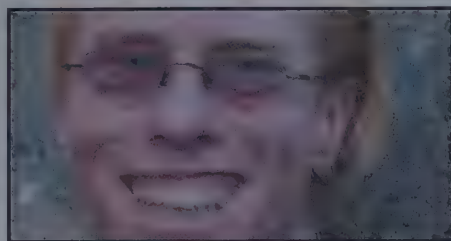
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HIGHLIGHT • QUEER



Exposed | Eli Clare will speak as a part of the 2008 Exposure Festival in Edmonton this week. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Exposure 2008 • Nov. 14-22 • Various locations

The party will kick off Friday afternoon with the Loud & Queer Cabaret. From there the next nine days will be filled with a ton of queer-themed activities, including discussions with prominent queer community members Eli Clare, Wednesday Lypypciw, and Wayne Yung. Of course, there will also be a ton of after-hours partying thanks to the No Pants Dance Party and the Noir Masquerade Gala which will bring the festival to a close.

community must do to achieve a sustainable future. Info: www.edmontonchamber.com.

EVENTS

ADRIAN LACHANCE STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, 87 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE NOV 13 An afternoon of Cree culture featuring the aboriginal motivational speaker, cultural facilitator, traditional dancer and drum keeper. Info: www.epl.ca.

ARTS MARKET THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351 18 AVE. SAT. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond, sharing unique gifts with local flavour. Info: www.thecarrot.ca.

BORN TO WRITE: THE RAVING POETS KASBAR LOUNGE, 10444 WHYTE AVE. OCT 16 - DEC 3 Open-stage spoken-word poetry with the Raving Poets Band. Every Wed Sign up at 7:30 p.m. Show at 8 p.m.

BREAKING THE 3E EQUATION: ECONOMIC GROWTH=ENERGY USE=ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT PETROLEUM CLUB, 11110 108TH ST. NOV 19 Presentation

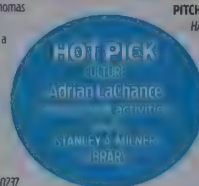
examining what industry, governments and the research

community must do to achieve a sustainable future. Info: www.edmontonchamber.com.

FESTIVAL OF IDEAS: FEAR & HAPPINESS IN THE MODERN WORLD NOV 13 - NOV 16 Join Salman Rushdie, Edward O. Wilson, Jaime Lerner, Will Alsop, Thomas King, and many others as the U of A celebrates the excitement of ideas as a part of their centennial celebration. Info: www.festivalofideas.ca.

FROM CHAOS TO PEACE MEN'S GROUP OCT 30 - DEC 25 An 8 session work group for men who have experienced abuse from their partner. Every Thu 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free admission. Info: 780-496-4777.

GET WRITING! GET PUBLISHED! 10237 104TH ST. NOV 18 Join representatives from the Writers Guild of Alberta (WGA) as they lead a discussion on the world of writing. Learn tips for improving your writing and getting published. Identify the difference between traditional publishing and self-publishing. Free admission.



From 12-1 p.m. Info: www.CanadaBusiness.ca/1800-272-9675/780-422-7772.

HOCKEY HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT RIVER CREE RESORT AND CASINO, WHITEMUD DR. & WHITEMUD RD. NOV 14 - NOV 16 Each team plays two hockey games and participates in 100 Limit Texas Hold'em poker. Info: 780-484-2102.

JITTERBUG SWING DANCE ORANGE HALL, 10335 84TH AVE. NOV 15 - OCT 15 Dance swing, jive, charleston, and lindy hop all night long. Beginner lesson at 8 p.m., dance from 9 p.m.-12 a.m. Info: www.sugarswing.com.

THE MORAL OF THE STORY: ART, CULTURE, MEDIA AND POLITICS MYER HOROWITZ THEATRE, STUDENT'S UNION BUILDING, U OF A NOV 14 - NOV 16 Tariq Ali - writer, journalist, film-maker, editor, historian-discusses why people often vote against their best interests. Info: 780-492-8558.

SALVOS PEACE AWARDS TORY LECTURE BUILDING, 1317 ST. SASKATCHEWAN DR. NOV 18 Dr. Andrew Weaver will discuss the dangers of climate change, the threats the tar sands pose, and what a real turn around would look like. Info: http://climate.uvic.ca/people/weaver.

LEARNING

EAT YOUR WORDS MACEWAN DOWNTOWN CAMPUS, 706 104TH AVE. NOV 15 Learn to write about food in the media. From 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: 780-497-5000.

EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY WINTER BOOK SALE STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, 87 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE NOV 17 - NOV 21 Starts at 9 a.m. Info: shathoo@epl.ca.

EDMONTON ON THE EDGE: INNOVATIVE URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN DELTA EDMONTON CENTRE SUITE HOTEL, 10222 102ND ST. NOV 17 With lectures, lunch and panel discussions with experts in the field of urban development. Tickets thru www.tixonthesquare.ca.

PITCH YOUR STORY TO THE MEDIA NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE, 9704 111 AVE. NOV 19 Presented by Media Mag, Media Workshops. Info: www.mediamag.ca/780-685-5675.

PUBLISH YOUR OWN NEWS NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE, 9704 111 AVE. NOV 19 Presented by Media Mag, Media Workshops. Info: www.mediamag.ca/780-685-5675.

READINGS & LECTURES

AN EVENING OF POETRY UPPER CRUST CAFÉ, 10909 99 AVE. NOV 17 The Stroll of Poets Society presents spoken word artists David Bridges, Cathy Hodgson, Brenda Love, and Shirley Serviss. Info: www.strollpoets.com.

QUEER

AGAPE EDUCATION FACULTY, U OF A CAMPUS Focus group on sex and gender differences in education and culture. Pre-service and practicing teachers, community members welcome. Info: andre.gare@ualberta.ca or 780-492-0777.

EPS/LGBTQ LIAISON COMMITTEE The EPS/LGBTQ Liaison Committee is composed of a variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, queer allied community members, and police officers. Email questions or concerns to epslgbt@yahoo.ca. All inquiries treated with confidentiality and respect. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit. 780-421-3459.

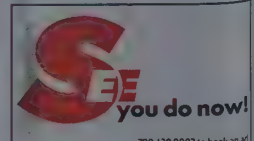
EXPOSURE 2008 NOV 14-22 Nine days of non-stop queer events. Including film, theatre, art exhibitions and public speaking. Info: www.exposurefestival.ca.

INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus-based organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies welcome. Monthly meetings. Info: kwells@ualberta.ca or mmonham@ualberta.ca

PRIDE CENTRE 9540 111 AVE., 780-488-3234 Hours: TUE-FRI 10 a.m. - SAT 12-6:30 p.m. Drop-in, library, and community internet services are available. Online newsletter Hours: TUE-FRI 10 a.m. - SAT 12-6:30 p.m. Info: 780-488-3234 or www.pridecentreofedmonton.org.

TEAM EDMONTON A volunteer operated, non-profit society for members and friends of the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting events and other recreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: www.teamedmonton.ca.

WOMONSPACE Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Organized monthly activities. Memberships available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured. Info: www.womonspare.ca, womonspare@gmail.com, or 780-482-1794.



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edster's dictionary

LOCAL VOCAB. BY TRENT WILKIE

comrie

VERB - To experience a downward spiral as a result of the actions of a co-worker that eventually ruins one's career. "He was doing so well until he got comried. Remember that Olympic goal that Belarus scored on him? He should have had that."

dexterist

ADJECTIVE - Prone to relate things in real life to things on TV in order to draw attention to the products one is selling. "We were going to compare the murder to *Mad Men* in our headline but it was too redundant. We finally settled on a more dexterist angle. Hey, stories about murder won't sell themselves."

holistocrite

NOUN - Someone who has taken on the "green movement" as a fashion trait rather than an actual lifestyle. "Did you notice all the SUVs parked in front of the organic grocery store? What a bunch of holistocrites."

man-fraggie

NOUN - Politically correct term chosen by oil workers to replace the term "rig pigs." "You can always tell when the man-fraggies are in town by the onslaught of souped-up trucks and the sudden depletion of available cocaine."

votada

NOUN - Suggested new Canadian voting style whereby voters get two votes: one for the candidate they want to win and one for the one they don't. "Even though the voter turnout was at an all-time high, because of the newly installed votada, Stephen Harper both won and lost the election."

check out new vocab every week

“JAZZ SINGERS AND COFFEE SHOPS KEEP PLAYING THE SAME SONGS OVER AND OVER AGAIN. I FIGURED EVENTUALLY SOMEBODY HAD TO WRITE NEW STANDARDS.”

MUSIC PREVIEW • OLD SOUL • BY RENATO PAGNANI | 502 words

Everyone Deserves Second Chances

JILL BARBER'S LATEST ALBUM MIGHT SHOW UP IN YOUR MOM'S STOCKING, BUT YOU'LL WANT TO BURN A COPY TOO

JILL BARBER

w/ Royal Wood: Nov. 15 (7:30pm), Arden Theatre (5 St. Anne Street, St. Albert). Tickets: \$28, available at the Arden box office.

You can take the artist out of the singer-songwriter, but it's much more difficult to take the singer-songwriter out of the artist.

Case in point: when Canadian chanteuse Jill Barber decided she wanted to make a throwback album that harkened back to the golden days of Patsy Cline and Etta James, she realized it was the perfect opportunity to flex her songwriting muscle and pen her own songs.

"I first thought about doing a cover album — you know, pick 10 or 12 of my favourite standards and sing and produce them," Barber explains. "But as a songwriter, I felt compelled to write original music. I feel like jazz singers and coffee shops keep singing and playing the same songs over and over again. I figured eventually somebody had to write new standards."

The result is *Chances* — released just last month to rave reviews across the country — on which Barber sounds like she was born about 50 years too late, her muscular voice sinking effortlessly into the lush orchestration provided by producer and longtime collaborator Les Cooper.

The retro flavour also extends to the subject matter of the 10 original songs that Barber wrote for *Chances*, the overriding topic being, naturally, love.

Barber says her favourite al-



Gotta Take A Chance With Something New | Jill Barber's latest album takes a pop spin with old-style standards. PHOTO SUPPLIED

bums have an infectious optimism regarding romance that she finds lacking in much of music today.

"My favourite albums make you feel good about love," she says. "They transport me to this whimsical, dreamy place where love is real and true, the kind of place that music can take you to if you let it. The kind of music that you find in old Disney movies — an exaggerated version of

reality that gives you hope for romance."

The reference to old Disney movies is fitting: one could easily envision any of the songs on *Chances* in *Mary Poppins*, or perhaps sung by a lonely animated princess. And it is precisely this unabashedly honest emotion that prevents the album from falling too far into Michael Buble territory — *Chances* is an album your mom would love, but one

that you wouldn't be embarrassed to have on your own playlist.

Perhaps the biggest compliment that can be paid to *Chances* is that its songs sound timeless, which was a greater concern for Barber than making them sound "modern."

"I didn't worry too much about making them sound contemporary — they are contemporary by virtue of the fact they were written in 2008," she says. "And I'm a prod-

uct of my time, so to say that I'm not influenced by modern popular music would be silly. My goal was to make a modern album in a classic way.

"This is a sound that I've long wanted to explore, and I'm at a point in my career where I was able to realize that sound. A lot of people have been calling this record a departure for me, but I feel like it's more of an arrival."



Stop, Drop, And Roll | In Flames burns it up at Edmonton Event Centre this week. PHOTO SUPPLIED

HOT TICKETS • MUST-SEE SHOWS

IT BURNS!

In Flames

Edmonton Event Centre • Nov. 15
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It's time to bust out the leather, spikes, and ripped T-shirts. That's right, kids: It's metal time! So let's see those devil horns and sexy midriffs. Just don't get too carried away. We hear that Scandinavian death metal bands burn churches every once in a while, and that's seriously lame. Instead, you should do awesome stuff. Like that time you pooped your pants in the moshpit after that 300-pound behemoth pinned you against the rail. Sure, it felt like the worst moment of your life at the time, but dude, that was so metal.

TRAINING WHEELS

Bicycles

Pawn Shop • Nov. 14
\$10 | At the door

Bike-riding is always more fun when friends tag along. That's probably why the likes of Jay Nunes, Mike Olsen, and Dave Azzolini can be heard on The Bicycles' latest album *The Good, The Bad, and the Cuddly*. It took two years to produce the disc, but it finally looks like the Toronto-based five set have got rid of their training wheels. Make sure to congratulate them on being able to ride a "big boy" bike on Friday. Matt, Andrew, Dana, and Drew: you've made us proud. Ride on, ride on. Just don't forget to wear your helmets.

RAMEN MEMORIES

Midway State

Starlite Room • Nov. 14
\$10 | Ticketmaster

At the age of 16, keyboardist Nathan Ferraro rounded up a few friends and struck out in search of fortune and fame in an old Chevy Beauville. They spent the summer sleeping in the van, living off dried noodles, old granola bars, and rainwater, playing for anyone who took pity on them. It paid off, though, and now they're headlining shows instead of opening them as wild card nobodies. If you see Ferraro on Friday make sure you don't have any noodles or granola on you. We hear that the smell still makes him sick.

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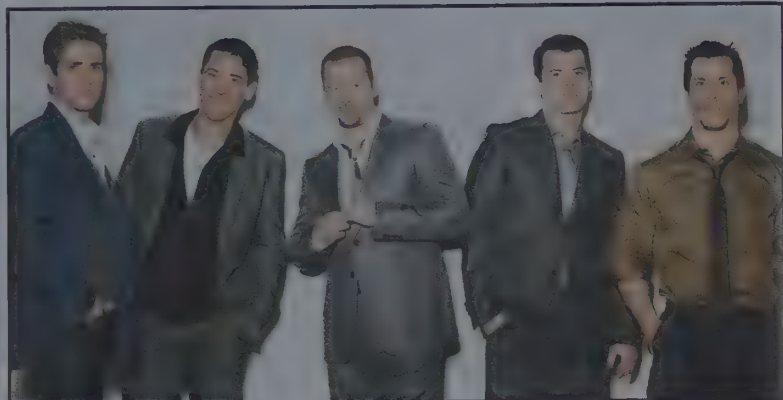
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CROSSTALK • FIRST CRUSHES • BY KATHLEEN BELL & FAWNDA MITHRUSH | 902 words

Some Things Are Best Left Dead



Barkstreet's Back Alright! | Ah, shit. Wait. Wrong boy band. But you have to admit it's hard to tell sometimes. PHOTO SUPPLIED

NKOTB ARE BACK AT REXALL ALMOST TWO DECADES AFTER THEIR FIRST VISIT. BUT WILL THEIR OLD FANBASE SNICKER OR SWOON?

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

w/ guests. Tue, Nov 18. (8pm). Rexall Place. Tickets: \$20-\$79, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

The early '90s were such a happy time in Edmonton: ■ woman was mayor, and some guy named Pocklington ruled the world. Rexall Place was a thing called the Coliseum and Green Day was just starting out – and in the musical world, the times, they were a-changin'.

In the youthful throes of our first starstruck crushes, many of Edmonton's girls (and boys) born of the '80s saw their First Concert Ever. It was New Kids on the Block. And man, did it ever rule.

Fawnda Mithrushi: I was absolutely head over heels for Jordan Knight. That girly falsetto just got me every time. I didn't think I could know a love so pure and true at eight years old. I watch the video for "Step by Step" on YouTube now and wonder what the hell was wrong with all of us. Truly, you have to wonder if we'd have ever heard of Justin Timberlake if NKOTB hadn't paved the way for the boy band frenzy of the decade that followed. In the harsh light of hindsight, we all know NKOTB's pop was just hideous, but we still ate it up like stoners going for taquitos on a Sunday morning. Which Boy was your favourite, Kathleen?

Kathleen Bell: I'm sure I insisted that I had a crush on leader-of-the-pack Jordan or cutie-pie Joey McIntyre, but in my heart of hearts it was always Donnie Wahlberg, with his excessively ripped jeans and faux-rebel attitude. You see, I was a good girl and good girls always go for the bad boys — at least secretly.

Only my diary knew the truth... until now I believe his talent shone its brightest while rapping on "Funky, Funky Xmas." I clearly remember my ridiculous love of, and loyalty to, NKOTB - I remember my best friends and me defending their music to, obviously, seriously misguided individuals in the schoolyard. (Ugh.) But I seem to have blocked out the memory of their demise. Didn't it involve them burning down a hotel or something? Fawnda, can you remember when the flame of NKOTB love died?

FM: Oh, I remember it so clearly. The flame of my love (and the rest of the pop world, for that matter), promptly extinguished in 1991, the very second Wahlberg was arrested for arson. Something about an alleged Molotov cocktail in their hotel room. See, the thing about bad boys is that they're really only sexy until they land up in handcuffs. Then you just have to drop and forget 'em — like a toothbrush that fell in the toilet. Some things should remain unsalvaged. And leaving his pop career behind might have been best for Wahlberg (and the rest of us) anyway. It's funny how the notorious badass of the good boy band has had the most post-NKOTB success. I mean, does anyone really care what Danny Wood has been up to?

KB: Was Danny the one with the rattail? Well, someone kept tabs on him – according to Wikipedia, he started a solo career. I don't understand why these guys try to start solo careers. Boy bands are like cartons of milk: if they hang around past their expiration date they just taste terrible. (JT being the exception that proves the rule.) New Kids, however, seem to lack the good sense to stay away. Do you think this reunion is meant to have any staying power or is it just a nostalgia-based cash grab? (On that note, ohmygod, how scary do they look now? Especially Don-

nie. Did his eyebrows get burnt off in the Molotov cocktail incident?)

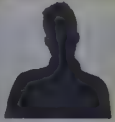
FM: Well, God bless the cash grab, because we're about to witness a bunch of nostalgic twenty-and-thirtysomethings shelling out \$7 a beer to swoon over those aged mugs. Most people going (and paying! gasp!) are simply trying to relive those halcyon days of youth, when pop was pure and sweet and not full of boobalicious dancers dripping with sweat in a wrestling ring. (And yes, Danny was the one with the rattail. It's funny how every boy band has that one ugly guy who no one remembers, like Howie from the Backstreet Boys. Or Chris from *NSYNC.) I wonder if the dance moves will be good – or if there will be any at all. Who knows? Someone could end up breaking a hip. So, will you go, Kathleen?

KB: I opted out. I want to keep my memories unsullied. Seeing your once-favourite band as ragged shadows of their former glory is depressing. Either way, I have my VHS tapes, my neon pink fannypack, and two (that's right, two) pristine copies of *Step by Step*. That's how I want NKOTB to stay, knowing with complete certainty that those dance moves were magnificent. Their hair, sublime. Their songs, about me! Though, it might worth it just to see them do that leg-failling shuffle step from "The Right Stuff."

Speaking of "The Right Stuff," who decided having the boys stalk a bunch of girls around a cemetery was a good idea? Oh. And to film that shit in black and white. Creep-tacular. So, Fawnda, are you going to rekindle, regurgitate, or relinquish the love on the 18th? Or will you be sticking with me, watching "Hangin' Tough" on VHS?

FM: I'll be there with you, baby. Covered in those temporary NKOTB tattoos we got from Universal. We'll crack some blue-flavoured coolers and laugh ourselves to sleep.

CD REVIEWS



Pop

SEBASTIEN GRAINGER

Sebastien Grainger & The Mountains

(Outside/Saddle Creek)

★★★★☆

Sebastien Grainger & The Mountains is a pop-rock album that differs from standard fare in its range and density. Grainger (the former singer/drummer of dance-punk duo Death From Above 1979) strips away much of DFA's aggression to craft a mature, accessible album without losing any of the energy or relevance of his former band. Even with nods to classic rock and radio pop, Grainger's soulful wail and careful lyrics lend his songs originality and sincerity.

Grainger avoids cliché even when dealing with the album's well-worn main themes of love and friendship, and it's this exceptional songwriting that makes even the disc's more radio-friendly tracks, like the album opener "Love Can Be So Mean" (with its plaintive chorus of "Love can be so mean/What does it mean, what does it mean?") agreeable to even the most cynical reviewer. The album varies from the arena-rock epic "American Names" to the Bowie-esque ballad "Love Is Not a Contest" — but it remains cohesive despite the stylistic shifts. "I'm All Rage (Live '05)" and "Meet New Friends" are the standout tracks, while the synth-dance of "Renegade Silence" and slurred noisiness of "Niagara" are the album's only out-of-place tracks on this towering debut.

MIKE DEANE

Jazz

ALAIN BÉDARD AUGUSTE QUINTET

Bluesy Lunedi (Eftend)

★★★★☆

Trip hop

BEAST

Beast

(Pterophone/Universal)

★★★★☆

Rock

LOU REED

Berlin: Live at St. Ann's

Warehouse (Matador)

★★★★☆



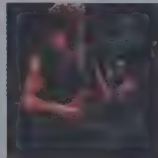
Simply put, Quebec's Alain Bédard Auguste Quintet plays good, hot jazz. Plus some progressive free-form jazz. And a few blues-inspired instrumentals thrown in for good measure too. *Bluesy Lunedi* is an artful blend of solo, duet, and quintet arrangements that gives each musician — from Bédard on acoustic bass to saxmen Frank Lozano and Jean-Christophe Beney, pianist Alexandre Grogg, and percussionist Pierre Tanguay — opportunity to shine. The eight-minute-plus title track is initially dissonant, each instrument slightly off-pace and winding along its own track. The melody picks up before drifting off on a thematic piano and bass riff, and when the saxes join in "Bluesy Lunedi" takes off in yet another direction. The tight, sax-driven "Simplement" is a more traditional offering. Contemporary influences are everywhere, though, nowhere more so than on "Monkey," a quick-paced jam session that tips its hat to the distinctive rhythms of Thelonious Monk.

PAUL MARCK



Beast's debut seems like a brilliant album with a brilliant central idea: take a massive, slick soundtrack and fill it to the brim with vitriol, all powerfully sung by Betty Bonifassi. But the brilliance wears off quickly. Bonifassi, who's best known for supplying vocals to Champion's CanCon megahit "No Heaven," is at once awe-inspiring and attention-grabbing. Her voice is strong here, resounding just as it did on her hit with Champion, but it's ultimately limited: even when she raps, she's just kind of yelling at you. The intensity and monotony become pretty intense after awhile; it's like locking yourself in a room and listening to Grace Jones albums all day. Also exhausting is her producer's mix of Morricone-style soundtracks and distorted drums. The awesome closer "Satan" uses the style best — at last, someone was smart enough to sample Charles Mingus' bass pizzicato from "Hora Decubitis." Save for the slower beats, this beast sounds just like Champion.

PROSPER PRODANIUK



Lou Reed's 1973 album *Berlin* is often regarded as the most bombastic work of his career. That's partly on account of its grim plot (lovers Caroline and Jim lead a squalid junkie existence in Berlin; the cops take their kids away, Caroline kills herself) and partly due to the uncharacteristically rich sound, complete with horns, strings, and choir. But I've always been struck more by the economy of Reed's lyrics, his ability to sum up his characters' wasted lives simply by repeating the phrase "sad song" over and over again. This live version of *Berlin*, staged in 2006 for Julian Schnabel's recent concert film, lacks the venom of the original — when Reed sings the line from "Oh Jim" about "looking through the eyes of hate," that state of mind feels more like a memory than something he connects to today. But the band is full of pep. Antony Hegarty contributes an ethereal encore version of "Candy Says," and the massive choral climax to "Sad Song" is as goosebumpingly magnificent as ever.

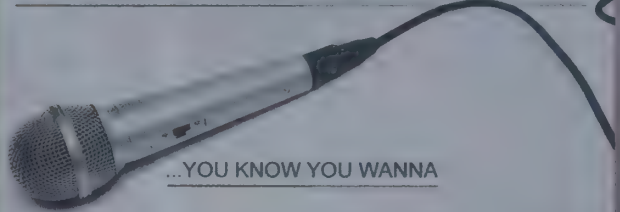
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CD RELEASE • LOCAL NOIR • BY FAWNDA MITHRUSH | 614 words

Turning Out The Lights

LOCAL FOLKS F&M EXPLORE SOME DARK THEMES ON EVERY LIGHT MUST FADE, BUT THEY STILL KNOW HOW TO LAUGH

F&M

Fri, Nov 14 (8pm), The Haven Social Club (15120 Stony Plain Rd). Tickets: \$10, available at the door.

"It's about loss," says Ryan Anderson of F&M's shiny, irreverent new album *Every Light Must Fade*, set to be released at the Haven Social Club this Friday. Indeed, the local folk-noir outfit (and husband-and-wife team) has a certain obsession with death and darkness – tinged ever-so-slightly with humour. I mean, their band moniker was inspired by the Foster & McFarvey funeral home.

As I sip coffee with the duo at Axis on Jasper, they explain that there's more to "loss" than the sad stuff. "It's not really completely about death," Ryan says. "At the same time, there's some joy in there." Since their album is about loss ("loss of dignity, loss of self" says Ryan), I ask what they're most afraid to lose.

"Becky," Ryan says. "My wife." He looks over at Becky, smiles, and tells her to say something different. So we share a laugh, but there's a pretty intense sense that it's no joke. The thought of losing a close partner can be absolutely terrifying. (In the end, Becky admits she's most afraid of losing Ryan too.) Considering the track records of so many husband/

wife teams in music (need I list them?), I have to ask how they get along working in such close quarters all the time. Again they laugh.

"We find it more fascinating than most people," Ryan says. "I mean, we live in a loft – no walls, no nothing. Actually, I'm absolutely fascinated by husbands and wives in rock and roll... What is that connection that brings a husband-and-wife team together to make great music?" He pauses. "It's pretty convenient."

Becky chimes in to add that it's that convenience that speeds everything along. "It's a statement about our society right now," she says. "It's hard to make lasting relationships, so if you make one, it kind of becomes your all. Your business, your music, your life is all wrapped together."

At the same time, they know it's important to make sure they don't get too sick of each other. "We've allowed ourselves to remain individuals," Becky says. "There's the couple Ryan and Becky, there's the band, and then there's the individuals."

As for the album and their songwriting, I ask why there's such focus on the dark. What about the chipper pop songs? What about the joy?

"[The album] is about seeing death as a window to experiencing authentic life," Becky explains. "It's part of the circle of life, and it's something in western culture that we don't always value. It's all part of experiencing life to the fullest... I guess it's harder to



Into The Light | F&M likes the dark. PHOTO SUPPLIED

write a happy, meaningful song than it is to write something that's darker. You stick to what you do best. I could try to do this and have something catchier and pleasing, but it's just not for me."

Ryan adds a little theory about their death bent. "I think we're tied to our environments, and Edmonton's not really the happiest place. It's rough, it's gruff and all these things. It comes out in what we write – it's not a disdain for Edmonton, it's more like a love for it. There's something I love about this gruff, ugly city."

He laughs. "But honestly, we sometimes sit around and listen to Justin Timberlake."

MUSIC PREVIEW • NU FOLK • BY FAWNDA MITHRUSH | 552 words

Mansion Of Passion

SARAH NONI METZNER'S LATEST ALBUM FOCUSES ON A 19TH-CENTURY BOARD GAME THAT AIMED TO TEACH CHILDREN A MORAL CODE

SARAH NONI METZNER

Sat, Nov 15 (8pm), Blue Chair Café (9624-76 Ave). Tickets: \$15 (969-2861).

In a world where the object of the best-selling videogame of the year is to shoot cops and run over prostitutes, you have to wonder just how kids are supposed to learn any sort of moral code.

But once upon a time (in the mid-1800s), there was a board game that aimed to teach the differences between virtue and vice. It was called The Mansion of Happiness, and Sarah Noni Metzner found the game so fascinating that she based a whole album on it.

"I loved the look of the game and the title from the onset of hearing it," Metzner explains from her mom's kitchen in Chilliwack, where she's on a one-day break from her

cross-country tour. "It was created in England, and the premise was to teach children about good and bad. As you move around the board game you land on virtues or vices. The virtues were things like godliness and obedience, and the vices were things like passion and deceit," she explains with a bit of dramatic zeal. "And if you get to the mansion, the centre, then you stay there and it's like heaven. If you don't make it you get sent back then it's bad, you can get sent to things like the lashing post. There's one version of the directions that say if you get locked out you become a drunken whore," she laughs.

Sure, the whole thing is a little dark, but no darker than what we're exposed to on PlayStations every day. *Mansion of Happiness*, released last month, is a stylistic departure for the folk/roots singer, who's now heading towards an indie-rock sorta feel.

Just like Metzner's musical shifts, The Mansion of Happiness (the game) also went through changes. "The fascinating thing about it is that the game was recreated every 10

years, each decade," she says. "During that time the idea of good and bad changed, and right and wrong, and what we want our kids to be. And a lot of the stuff I write deals with these questions of challenging of ideals... Passion was my favourite [part of the game]. It was a vice, it was to be looked down upon. I mean, passion itself is something that we value in today's culture. We want to see our children and our lovers have passion. We want to see passion to create and desire things. I knew that before exploring the game, passion is a thing that can be risky, passion makes people do wild things. In some times and cultures that can be scary."

And despite the long-ago era the game was created in, Metzner thinks the times we're livin' in are perfect fodder for thinking about "new" moral codes. "It's going to be a very substantial time period – a lot of things are going to happen," she says. "But things like passion, things like art, things like music are going to continue to be important in a culture that seems to be falling apart."

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MUSIC PREVIEW • BLUES • BY JEFF HOLUBITSKY | 618 words

An Original Blues Brother

FROM WATERS TO WELLS TO CLAPTON AND THE STONES, THIS BUDDY IS ONE GUY THAT'S DONE IT ALL

BUDDY GUY

w/ Lindsay Ell. Fri, Nov 14 (8pm), Winspear Centre (#4 Sir Winston Churchill Square). Tickets available at the Winspear box office (428-1414).

Buddy Guy couldn't be at home in Chicago the night its celebrated son, Barack Obama, captured the imagination of the world with his stunning victory in the U.S. presidential election. He couldn't be there with the likes of Oprah Winfrey and the Rev. Jesse Jackson to shed tears of a pride that generations of African-Americans before them could only imagine.

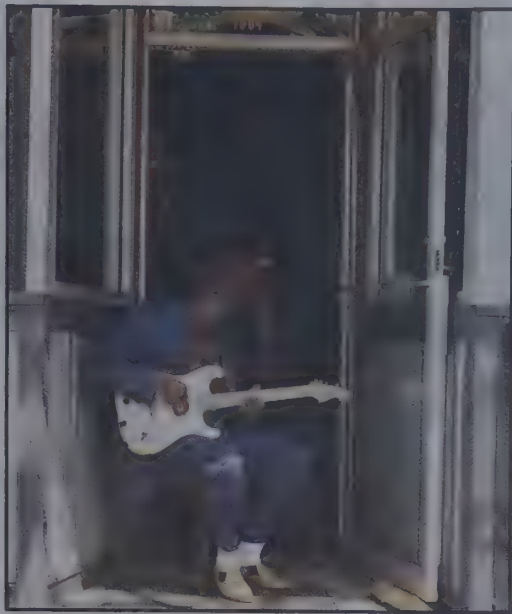
Instead, as one of the performers who helped changed the course of American musical history with five decades of his own contributions to the Chicago-style electric blues invented by mentors such as the late Muddy Waters, Guy was doing what he has always done: he strapped on his polka-dot Stratocaster before a crowd in Spokane, Wash., and followed his passion for music to the very brink of losing control. His thoughts and prayers were in Chicago, but his sense of responsibility was to the blues.

"I wished I was there, but first of all I got a crew of people working for me, so it's more important to keep working, man, because if the way things are now with people losing jobs," he humbly says in a phone interview conducted at 7 a.m. in Spokane. "And I'm blessed to be able to do the thing I love."

His peers include the best of the best and he has traded notes with most of them, from Waters and Junior Wells to Eric Clapton and the Rolling Stones. Carlos Santana describes the experience of playing with Guy in the latest *Guitar Player* magazine: "When I am open to intangibles, I can play with Buddy Guy and hold my own," Santana says, "because Buddy Guy is a hurricane, and if you are not playing from your heart, he will wash you out."

Guy's love of the blues took him from a boyhood on a plantation in Louisiana where he made his first guitar with wires from the screen in the kitchen door, to Chicago where he honed his craft playing as a sideman to the greats, before being acclaimed by people such as Clapton and Jimi Hendrix as one of the masters himself.

"We learned to play for the love of music," the five-time Grammy and 23-time W.C. Handy Blues Award recipient says. "When I picked up my guitar you couldn't tell me you would be talking to me today and I would be making a decent living out of it. You



Hey Buddy! No man holds a Stratocaster like Buddy Guy. one. PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN LANDRY

look at Stevie Ray Vaughan, Clapton, and Hendrix who become millionaires by playing the guitar. That didn't even exist."

At the age of 72, Guy's still on the road for more than 150 dates a year, this time featuring songs from his latest album *Skin Deep*, featuring cream-of-the-crop younger players such as Derek Trucks, Susan Tedeschi, and Robert Randolph.

"I've been in Chicago 51 years and I've never missed a gig yet," Guy says. "I've dedicated my life to this, so when someone invites you to play, at least you know somebody cares about you and you must be good

enough for them to call."

Retirement isn't an option. "I don't know no blues musician who retired," he says, "but I know a lot them who dropped."

When he sings and listens to the early blues of the Mississippi Delta, he notices the lyrics from the those harder times have once again become appropriate. "We have always been singing about everyday life and some people don't want to be reminded of that," he says. "But if you listen to blues... it's always about a good time or a bad time and if you haven't had a bad time, just keep living."

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SEEN IT LIVE • GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK



It's Never Too Late To Say "We Love You" | Travis Sargent plays his first-ever solo cover (and also farewell) show Thursday to a packed Empress. PHOTO BY FISH GRIWAKOWSKY

GWAR

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE • NOV. 8

In yet another hare-brained scheme, I got talked into going to Gwar on Saturday. That's right: not only did I go to WEM, but I went to see the ultimate mockery of metal while getting covered in fake blood, jizz, and who the hell knows what else. A group of New Brunswickers soon took me in to explain how many times they'd seen Gwar (four!), how many times they'd jumped in the slave pit (twice!), and just how awesome metal is (uh, really, really awesome). Gwar started up and I ended up on a stranger's

shoulders, getting spewed right good by Oderus Urungus' plasticine gut-gun. Between the floppy purple alien dink and all the hairy old-man ass onstage, I'm not sure if I want to remember Gwar so clearly. But it's going to be hard to forget. FAWNDA MITHRUSH

CHRIS CORNELL

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE • NOV. 10

I need to start this out by saying that I am not a Chris Cornell fan. That said, Cornell put on a show like none other. The awful sound of the building formerly known as Red's didn't help — Mobile

sounded like crappy computer speakers taped inside my head and turned up to monotone. When Cornell took the stage, the building erupted. His band played like they were sharing a hive mind; they rocked, rolled, melted faces, and ruined underwear. I got treated to hits from Soundgarden, Audioslave, and the tastiest of morsels from Cornell's solo collection. In the end, as my friend and I waited for our ride, a young lady came out the doors screaming, "Chris Cornell signed my tits!" God bless you, rock and roll — may you live forever. TRENT WILKIE

MUSIC PREVIEW • INDIE COUNTRY • BY WARREN HAAS (468 words)

Cool Hand, Luke



Canadians Kick Ass | And Luke Doucet proudly upholds the standard. PHOTO SUPPLIED

LUKE DOUCET'S GUITAR STYLINGS ON *BLOOD'S TOO RICH* ARE AS PROUDLY CANADIAN AS THEY COME

LUKE DOUCET AND THE WHITE FALCON

w/ James Blunt, Nov. 19 (7:30pm), Rexall Place. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca)

Born in Halifax and now residing outside of Toronto, Luke Doucet has spent time in most of Canada's major cities, including a stint in Vancouver fronting the now defunct indie rock band Veal. He's been on global tours with a diverse group of artists, even handling lead guitar for Sarah McLachlan at one point. But lately Doucet has been on the road promoting his latest solo album, *Blood's Too Rich*, a tour that's taken him all the way to the birthplace of the country genre.

"I actually left Nashville a little bit disappointed," admits Doucet, still sounding a little surprised. As far as he's concerned, Canadians have been making music as well as anyone from Nashville for some time. As he points out, "The Band and Crazy Horse are arguably the two most significant southern rock bands in history."

And Doucet's appreciation for homegrown music was the impetus for his return to Canada. "The players up here are world-class. I think the standard of musicianship and the standard of songwriting in particular are the highest in the world." It's hard to argue with him, especially when you can hear the influence of a wide range of rock bands from the '70s onward on *Blood's Too Rich*, an album largely steeped in the alt-country southern rock tradition.

Following that tradition, Doucet's

music evokes an undeniable sense of isolation, complete with songs about lonesome truck drivers and moving to strange new cities. The amount of time he spends away from home might have had something to do with it. "I do tour sort of a ridiculous amount," Doucet says, "and it comes to a point where you can't really deny the influence that has on your life. Sometimes people say, 'Wow, you tour a lot. What's that like?' And I feel like, 'What do you mean, 'What's it like?' I don't know. It's all I know. It's all I've done for 20 years. I don't really know anything else."

Unfortunately, singing every night is starting to take its toll on the 35-year-old Doucet, who's dealt with two cases of laryngitis in the past year. When asked if he sees the wear and tear on his vocal cords as proof of how hard he's working, Doucet savours the notion for a moment. "I romanticize the life of a musician enough that I would be the kind of person who would find that battle scar appealing," he says, but the urge to romanticize doesn't last long. "To be honest, it's so terrifying, the notion that I can't do my gig."

It's refreshing when reputation takes a backseat to the simple act of playing music. When *High Fidelity* author Nick Hornby picked "The Commandante" from *Blood's Too Rich* for his 2008 playlist, Doucet's reaction was humble. "If that makes the cool kids think that I'm cooler," he says, "well, I guess that can't be a bad thing. I try and make the best music that I can and there have been different parts of my life when I lived in abject poverty as a result, so I like to think that my music has credibility. I'm doing it for one reason only."

Way OUT West: a Hootenanny

Nov. 14 & 15 • 7:30pm • 8pm

LOUD & QUEER

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

- 1 Whatever You Like, T.I.
- 2 Let it Rock, Kevin Rudolf
- 3 Womanizer, Britney Spears
- 4 Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
- 5 So What, Pink
- 6 Hot N Cold, Katy Perry
- 7 My Life The Game ft. Lil Wayne
- 8 Just Dance, Lady GaGa
- 9 Right Now (Na Na Na), Akon
- 10 Rock N' Roll Train AC/DC

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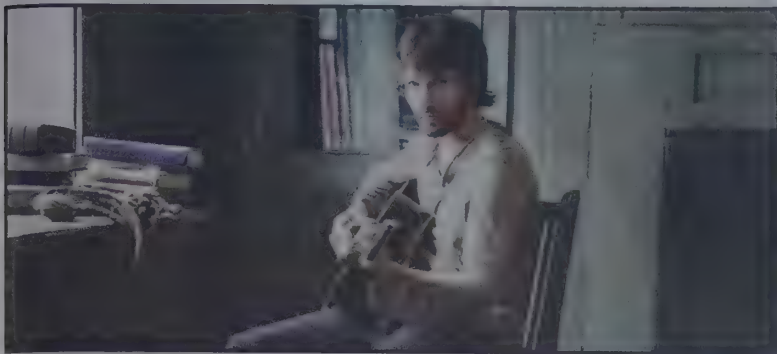
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MUSIC PREVIEW • CHEESE POP • BY KATHLEEN BELL, 162 words

Death And Entertainment



Aw, He's Such A Sensitive Guy | There's no hiding James Blunt's sappy side, but it's what made him famous. PHOTO SUPPLIED

HE MIGHT GET PAINTED AS A TOTAL SAP, BUT JAMES BLUNT HAS BEEN AROUND MORE THAN HIS FAIR SHARE OF BENDS

JAMES BLUNT

w/ Luke Doucet, Wed. Nov 19 (7:30pm), Rexall Place. Tickets: \$34.25-\$59.50, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca)

James Blunt is a lesson in perception. We know him as ■ shaggy-haired Brit, a sensitive singer-songwriter type. A man who will never have a problem pulling the ladies thanks to "You're Beautiful," a tearful meditation (and ■ massive radio hit) about two lives passing in a subway station).

But you may not know that he's also a sharp, considerate man especially interested in how people interact.

"I'm really intrigued by everything that goes on in the world of politics," explains Blunt in his upper-class accent over the phone from France. "Without the political side of it. Without the search for power, but instead the notion of just how we can all work together."

Once upon a time, Blunt was an undergrad at the University of Bristol, ending up with a degree in sociology. Following that, he became an officer in the British Army. While serving in Kosovo under NATO, he rode around with a guitar strapped

to the back of his tank. He also spent six months training in Alberta and, not for nothing, he thinks our little corner of the world ■ "beautiful" too.

"It's an amazing place," he says. "I slept out under the stars for six months. I saw the northern lights and wolves and moose running past." Blunt doesn't see his time in the army, which paid for his education, as a misstep or detour on his way to international stardom. Instead, he feels it was school and the resulting life experience that gave him something to sing about.

"You have to get out and live life, experience life, meet people, have contact, have friendships, have good times and bad times," he says. "These are the things that one writes about. So, to get an education ■ an education in the world, to understand the world and how it works. At the same time you meet people at university, you build friendships. And going to the army, that's a real education in real life — life and death and politics. How different nations interact, how they are afraid of each other. All of those things are really important; otherwise I would have just gone into a room and sung about white walls and the four walls around me. Nothing that inspirational to write about."

Instead of "Four Walls: One Man's Exploration of Watching Paint Dry,"

we got *Back to Bedlam* in 2004. With the success of *Bedlam*, Blunt felt more free creating *All the Lost Souls* in 2007. "I was free because I didn't have to worry too much about having to hold on to a job, I was pretty confident of that." He also had a lot more options with his touring band backing him up on his sophomore release.

While carrying ■ guitar may seem far removed from carrying a gun, James sees many ■ similarity between his time in the army and his career as an artist. "I dealt with life and death before and now I deal in what's called 'entertainment,'" he begins. "At the same time there are some very important things in something like music for me. I went back to Kosovo, where I was a soldier, and played there two years ago to some Albanians and Serbs — families who had previously been murdering each other. For an hour and a half they stood side by side and I played songs about their common sense of humanity. That was just as effective as when I had been a soldier trying to convince them to talk to each other, so maybe I'm doing exactly the same job."

I know, I know. You'll never cry over a James Blunt song in the same superficial way again. It will be a much deeper, more meaningful weepfest. Just bring a hanky to the concert.



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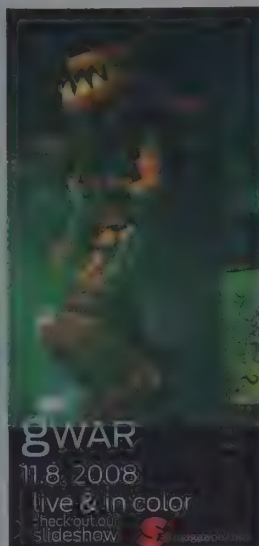




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MUSIC BUZZ • MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS | 641 words

Gotcha, You Little Bird



WILDLIFE FISH GRIWKOWSKY
JUST BEFORE LEAVING TOWN,
EVERYONE'S FAVOURITE
BARTENDER CAUGHT THE
CITY'S MOST ANNOYING
TAGGER

Not to gush too, too much – but in his last week in Edmonton Travis Sargent managed not only to set fire to a wicked show full of heart-broken girls at the Empress, but also unmask the city's most repetitive and frankly corporate graffiti tagger. Thanks to helping snare the prolific fucker known to too many of us as "Listen," dozens of us now know the guy by name and are trying to decide exactly what to do about it.

Listen – who I'm going to leave anonymous in print here in light of the total police-bootfuck financial

word is actually a command eroded our sympathies – this self-righteous idea that his sometimes-collaborated-on brand endlessly in our faces was somehow holier than Telus' or Epcor's bullshit presence.

Listen quickly used this very argument with Sargent, sneering that it would be okay if he paid to have his "art" up like advertisers. Well, first of all: fuck bathroom ads. That's me talking. But also, if you're going to vandalize one, at least be creative about it. Writing "cockwagon" on a Hummer ad, for example, is perfectly fine by me.

Sargent agreed that if Listen paid to have his revolutionary line drawings up they could stay, pointing out that seeing as that won't happen the staff now had to waste time cleaning it up. He wished Listen good luck on finding another place to drink. One last shot came as the tagger complained about overpriced beer at a bar he has all over his Facebook page having a good time at.

Anyway, like I said, I'm not going to rat this cat out with things as they stand.

LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT GOING TO RAT THIS CAT OUT WITH THINGS AS THEY STAND. HOWEVER, IN THE SPIRIT OF ALL THE ANARCHIST MATERIAL ON HIS FACEBOOK PAGE, I'LL PUT IT TO AN INFORMAL, COLLECTIVE, AND OPEN VOTE AMONG PEERS AND WE'LL GO FROM THERE. WHAT COULD BE MORE FAIR, YOU FUCKING LIPPY, THANKLESS HIPPIE?

destruction of a similar "look at my balls" vandal in Calgary – was caught red-handed drawing his little retarded jay once more in the Empress can. As he was ejected by a bouncer, nice-guy Travis struck Listen a deal he should have eponymously heard. Come and quietly clean it off and you can still drink here... and they'd forget about the whole thing. The two agreed. But Listen never showed.

Sargent sent him a Facebook message soon after expressing his disappointment, which Listen reacted to with incredulity, stunned that Sargent actually wanted him to come in as he'd agreed. So already we know he's a fucking liar. And also a person who fails to recognize or even acknowledge the barkeep who could've called the cops and destroyed his life, helped by photographic evidence found on his Facebook page that's since been copied and saved among pictures of lawn dancing and perfectly acceptable pot use.

Anyway, sorry – but I've had a hate-on for this tag for years. I love real graffiti, even some of the imaginative early Listens, like turning the bike path lane stripes into script seen clearly from the High Level. But oversaturation and the fact this

However, in the spirit of all the anarchist material on his Facebook page, I'll put it to an informal, collective, and open vote among peers and we'll go from there. What could be more fair, you fucking lippy, thankless hippie?

Just to light another fire for fun, I've noticed a respark of last year's debate over a 2010 Olympic organizer's comments against being pushed to feature "O Canada" in Hindi at the Games: "It was written in English, adapted into French, and should be sung word for word the way it was written."

Supplemental material in the forward includes, "I am not sorry if this offends anyone, this is MY COUNTRY – IF IT IS YOUR COUNTRY, SPEAK UP" and "IMMIGRANTS, NOT CANADIANS, MUST ADAPT." Adapting by, for example, not understanding that an apostrophe doesn't mean "Canadian" is plural?

Anyway, where I stand, "O Canada" in Hindi would actually be a remarkable admission that we don't care about meaningless bullshit like this.

Oh, and P.S.: it was written in French first, Captain Cracker.

LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY

Blues & Roots

ANN VRIEND HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120 A STONY PLAIN RD. With T. Nile. Doors at 8 p.m.

Concerts

500 BAE FESTIVAL PLACE, 100 FESTIVAL WAY Doors at 7:30 p.m.

Jazz

HEECUBUS TRIO FOUR ROOMS, #137 CITY CENTRE EAST, 102 AVE. & 100 A ST. EDMONTON, ALBERTA NOV 13 Doors at 8 p.m.
JIM HEAD QUARTET YARBOROUGH SUITE, #11, TOMMY BANKS WAY NOV 13 Doors at 7:30 p.m.

Pop & Rock

CHUCK BROWN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, DOWNTOWN, RICE HOWARD WAY.
ELEVENTH CURRENT URBAN LOUNGE, 10544 WHYTE AVE. With The Fireseeds, and Jake Jan. Doors at 9 p.m.

JIMMY WHIFFEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL.

LYLE HOBBS ROSE & CROWN PUB, SUTTON PLACE HOTEL, 10235 101 ST.

TERRY MCADDE FAIRMONT HOTEL, MACDONALD, 10065 100TH ST. Doors at 5 p.m.

FRIDAY

Alternative

CALAN AND COLE JEFFREY'S CAFE & WINE BAR, 9640-342 ST. Info: www.jeffreyscafe.com.

GHOSTKEEPER VELVET UNDERGROUND, 10030 102 ST. With Vox Humane and Johnny Feelgood. Doors at 9 p.m.

MARTY MAJOROWICZ FRESH START BAKERY & BISTRO, 484 RIVERBEND SQUARE Info: www.freshstartbistro.com/780-433-9823

MULE THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351 18 AVE. Doors at 7:30 p.m.

UGLY SWEATER PARTY THE TEMPLE, 10030-102 ST. With Prosa, Anthony Donahue, Erin Eden and Mr. Wedge. Doors at 9 p.m.

Blues & Roots

DWAYNE CANNAN KINGSWAY LEGION, 10425 KINGSWAY DOORS at 6:30 p.m.

F&M HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120 A STONY PLAIN RD. CD release party. Doors at 8 p.m.

Concerts

BUDDY GUY FRANCIS' WINSPEAR CENTRE, 9720 102 AVE. NOV 13 With special guest Lindsay Ell. Doors at 8 p.m. Info: www.winspearcentre.com.

THE GOOD BROTHERS FESTIVAL PLACE, 100 FESTIVAL WAY, SHERWOOD PARK With House of Doc. Doors #11 7:30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL GUITAR NIGHT HORIZON STAGE, 315 15 PERSON AVE. SPRUCE GROVE With Brian Gore, Andy Sheppard, Dale Kavanagh and Cecilia Zabela. Doors at 7:10 p.m.

JENNY WHITELEY ST. BASIL'S CULTURAL CENTRE, 10819 757 AVE. With Sheeshum & Lotus. Info: 780-438-6410.

UPTOWN FOLK CLUB CANADIAN LEGION HORNWOOD BRANCH, 11150 82ND ST. CD release party with The ULC "Sang" and Wendell Ferguson & Tyler Voltrath. Doors at 7:30 p.m.

Jazz

HEECUBUS FOUR ROOMS, #137, 102 AVE. & 100 A ST. Doors at 9 p.m.

STEVE KIRBY QUINTET YARBOROUGH SUITE, #11, TOMMY BANKS WAY Doors at 8 p.m.

Pop & Rock

THE BICYCLES THE PAWN SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10551 82ND AVE. With the DB Bouton Revue.

CRUSH URBAN LOUNGE, 10544 WHYTE AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.

CHUCK BROWN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, DOWNTOWN, RICE HOWARD WAY.

DUANE ALLEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, CAPITANO MALL, NORTH ENTRANCE.

JIMMY WHIFFEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL.

LYLE HOBBS ROSE & CROWN PUB, SUTTON PLACE HOTEL, 10235 101 ST.

MADISON DRIVE CASINO EDMONTON, 7055 ARGYLE RD. OUT OF THE BLUE YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464 153RD ST. SUITE 33 YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464 153RD ST.

TERRY MCADDE FAIRMONT HOTEL, MACDONALD, 10065 100TH ST. Doors at 5 p.m.

TIM LOWETT CHATEAU LOUIS, 11727 KINGSWAY DOORS at 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Alternative

IN FLAMES EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE, 2556 - 882 170 ST. With All That Remains. Doors at 7 p.m.

LINT VELVET UNDERGROUND, 10030 102 ST. With Desiderata

and Gift Eaters. Doors at 9 p.m.

MATTHEW BARBER AND THE SPADES THE PAWN SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10551-82 AVE. With The Pale Moon Lights. Doors at 8 p.m.

OH SNAP! THE TEMPLE, 10030-102 ST. With Degree, Cobra Commander and guests. Doors at 9 p.m.

PETRO POLLUJIN CHATEAU LOUIS, 11727 KINGSWAY DOORS at 8 p.m.

THE RUBIX CUBE MASSIVE THE STARLITE ROOM, 10030 102 ST. Fundraising for UofA Rotaract Club with K.Y.L.A. and Daphnure. Doors at 9 p.m.

Blues & Roots

DWAYNE CANNAN KINGSWAY LEGION 10425 KINGSWAY NW EDMONTON, ALBERTA NOV 15 Doors at 6:30 p.m.

FIRST ANNUAL ALL CANADIAN PRE-BLIZZARD BLUES BASH PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL, 10860 57 AVE. Presented by Reconciliation Blues Band & Red House. Doors at 8 p.m.

NATHAN ROGERS, QUEEN ALEXANDRA HALL, 10425 UNIVERSITY AVE. With Old Man Luedicke. Doors at 8 p.m.

Concerts

BLACK & WHITE: A CLASSICAL EVENING FESTIVAL PLACE, 100 FESTIVAL WAY, SHERWOOD PARK DOORS at 5:30 p.m.

CELTARA WESTWOOD URBAN, 11355 65TH AVE. Celtic music. Doors at 7:30 p.m.

JILL BARBER THE ARDEN THEATRE, #5 ST. ANNE ST. ST. ALBERT, DOORS at 7:30 p.m.

Jazz

ALAIN BÉDARD AND AUGUSTE QUINTET YARBOROUGH SUITE, #11, TOMMY BANKS WAY DOORS at 8 p.m. Info: 780-432-0428.

HEECUBUS FOUR ROOMS, #137 CITY CENTRE EAST, 102 AVE. & 100 A ST. Doors at 9 p.m.

Pop & Rock

CHUCK BROWN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, DOWNTOWN, RICE HOWARD WAY.

CRUSH URBAN LOUNGE, 10544 WHYTE AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.

DALE DAOUCEUR HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120 A STONY PLAIN RD. Doors at 8 p.m.

DUANE ALLEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, CAPITANO MALL, NORTH ENTRANCE.

JIMMY WHIFFEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL.

MADISON DRIVE CASINO EDMONTON, 7055 ARGYLE RD. OUT OF THE BLUE YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464 153RD ST. SUITE 33 YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464 153RD ST.

TIM LOWETT CHATEAU LOUIS, 11727 KINGSWAY DOORS at 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Alternative

CELTIC MUSIC SESSION DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB, 9013 88 AVE. Hosted by Keir-Lynne Zwicker from 4-7 p.m.

PETRO POLLUJIN CHATEAU LOUIS, 11727 KINGSWAY DOORS at 5 p.m.

SOUJAH FRYAN HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120 A STONY PLAIN RD. Doors at 8 p.m.

Concerts

CONCORDIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TEGLER STUDENT CENTRE 73 ST. 112 AVE. Doors at 3 p.m. Tickets \$11 the door.

DAVE BABCOCK & THE NIGHTKEEPERS FESTIVAL PLACE, 100 FESTIVAL WAY, SHERWOOD PARK. Doors at 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY

Jazz

JAZZ NIGHT HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120 A STONY PLAIN RD. Doors at 7 p.m.

Pop & Rock

JIMMY WHIFFEN DEVANEY'S PUB, 9013 88 AVE.

TUESDAY

Blues & Roots

BILLY WISEMAN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, DOWNTOWN, RICE HOWARD WAY.

Concerts

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK RECALL PLACE, 7424 118 AVE. Doors at 8 p.m. Info: www.ticketmaster.ca.

Pop & Rock

DERINA HARVEY SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL.

LYLE HOBBS ROSE & CROWN PUB, SUTTON PLACE HOTEL, 10235 101 ST.

RICHARD BELLEY & WOODWORK L.B.'S PUB, #110, 23 AKINS DRIVE ST. Doors at 9 p.m.

RICHARD BELLEY THE ROCK PUB AND GRILL, 570 ST. ALBERT RD. ST. ALBERT With Gordie Matthews. Hosted by Mark Ammar and Noel "Big Cat" Mackenzie. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Info: 780-458-5571.

WEDNESDAY

Alternative

JAY WILTZEN URBAN LOUNGE, 10544 WHYTE AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.

Blues & Roots

BILLY WISEMAN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, DOWNTOWN, RICE HOWARD WAY.

RICE HOWARD WAY.

Concerts

JAMES BLUNT RECALL PLACE, 7424 118 AVE. Doors at 7:30 p.m. Info: www.ticketmaster.ca.

LIVE FROM THE MUSEUM: THE U-22 REVUE ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM THEATRE, 12845 102 AVE. Museum Cafe. Featuring a mix of new artists, age 22 and under, and professional conducting. Master Jam! sessions.

MUSIC WEDNESDAYS AT NOON MCDONALD UNITED CHURCH, 10025 101 ST. From 12:10-12:50 p.m. Free admission, bring a bag lunch. Tea and coffee available. Info: 468-4964.

Pop & Rock

DERINA HARVEY SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL.

DUFF ROBINSON DEVANEY'S PUB, 9013 88 AVE.

LYLE HOBBS ROSE & CROWN PUB, SUTTON PLACE HOTEL, 10235 101 ST.

OPEN STAGE

THURSDAY

L.B.'S PUB 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Hosted by Shaved Posse: Ken, Fred, Gordie, and Matt.

SATURDAY

BLUES ON WHYTE 4-8:30 p.m. Afternoon jam, visit www.bluesonwhyte.ca

THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 7-10 p.m. Music and poetry open mic

COAST TO COAST 9 a.m.-2 a.m. with Troy P Wright. EXPRESSION CAFE 1ST SAT EVERY MONTH 1-5 p.m. Hosted by Karyn Stirling. Info: www.expressionscafe.com

MOLSON OPEN STAGE L.B.'S PUB, 23 AKINS DR. APPLE-YARD SQUARE, ST. ALBERT Hosted by Gord MacDonald. Doors at 4:30 p.m. Info: 800-460-9100

MORANGO'S TEA CAFE 7-10 p.m. Hosted by Tommy. Info: www.morangostekcafes.com.

XWRECK 5 p.m.

SUNDAY

DUSTERS PUB Hosted by The Mary Thomas Band.

EDDIE SHORTS 9 p.m. Hosted by Brad Taylor, instruments and gear provided.

HOOLIGANZ PUB Afternoon jam hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny.

HULBERTS' SUNDAY NIGHT OPEN MIC Hosted by Rhea March. 7 p.m.

LOOP LOUNGE 3-10 p.m. Hosted by JJ Lennay III and The Cats.

O'BRYNE'S IRISH PUB 9 p.m. Hosted by Joe Bird.

OVERDRIVE 1:30-5 p.m. "Anything Goes" afternoon acoustic jam hosted by The Shuffiehound.

SONG WRITER'S STAGE HULBERTS' 7610 115 ST. Hosted by Rhea March. Info: www.hulberts.ca.

TEDDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY

THE IVORY CLUB 8 p.m. Hosted by Marty Vinko.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7 p.m. Acoustic fiddle jam hosted by Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society. Info: Willy, 780-434-5710

ROSE BOWL SHEROUGE LOUNGE 9 p.m.-12 a.m. with Mike McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.

TUESDAY

AMMAR'S MOOSEHEAD TUESDAY OPEN STAGE L.B.'S PUB, 23 AKINS DR. APPLE-YARD SQUARE, ST. ALBERT Hosted by Mark Ammar and Noel (Big Cat) Mackenzie. Doors at 9 p.m. Info: 780-460-9100.

THE DRUID 9 p.m. Hosted by Chris Wynters.

SNEAKY PETES BAR AND GRILL Open Jam 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

CAFE BRITT 7-9 p.m. Hosted by Paul LePage.

DEVANEY'S 9013 88 AVE. Hosted by Duff Robinson. Starts at 8 p.m. Info: 780-465-4834.

EDDIE SHORTS Open jam, all gear provided.

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB 7:30 p.m. Hosted by Ido Vanderlaan.

HOOLIGANZ PUB 7:30 p.m. Hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny.

LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE 8 p.m. Hosted by Brian Gregg. Info: www.littleflower.ca, or 780-429-3624.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7:30 p.m. Bluegrass jam hosted by Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society.

THE ROCK PUB AND GRILL Unplugged Jam, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No Cover.

KARAOKE

BO DIDDY'S ROADHOUSE (NW) Sat 10 p.m.-2 a.m. with Gord's Ultimate Karaoke.

BUO'S LOUNGE Fri & Sat, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. with Mr. Entertainment.

DEVANEY'S Thu, 8 p.m.

GUS PUMP Tue & Wed, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. with Gord's Live Jukebox.

HOOLIGANZ PUB Thu & Fri with Krista, Liquid Entertainment.

INGLEWOOD PUB Thu 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. with Gord's, Fri with Shauna and Sat with Jolly Greg Giant.

KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH Fri 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Gord's Live Jukebox.

L.B.'S PUB Tue, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. with The KaraokeNuts.

ON THE ROCKS Mon, 9:30 p.m. Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke with Scott Parsons, Mr. Entertainment.

ROSE & CROWN PUB ROCKBAND NIGHT Sat 9 p.m.

SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB ROCKBAND NIGHT Sun 9 p.m., Mon 8 p.m.

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“THE FILM'S CREDIT SEQUENCE IS FULL OF BULLETS AND EXOTIC THIGHS, BUT EVEN THAT SEEMS JOYLESS AND MECHANICAL.

MOVIE REVIEW • OCTOPUITY • BY MICHAEL HINGSTON | 690 words

The Spy Who Avenged Me

DANIEL CRAIG TAKES JAMES BOND TO NEW EXTREMES OF BROODINESS IN *QUANTUM OF SOLACE*

QUANTUM OF SOLACE

Directed by Marc Forster. Starring Daniel Craig, Mathieu Amalric, Olga Kurylenko, Gemma Arterton, Judi Dench, Jeffrey Wright. Opens Fri., Nov. 14.

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

The titles of most James Bond movies seem like they're cooked up by a bunch of 10-year-old boys playing Madlibs (Verb? "Kill!" Another verb? "Die!" Noun? "...Diamonds?"), but not so for the latest instalment, *Quantum of Solace*. This title is actually trying to convey information — thesaurus-heavy and overwritten as it may be — so let's begin there.

Quantum of Solace means, roughly, "a rationed amount of comfort." It's a clinical, detached way to describe an experience that's just as emotionless — and that's actually an apt description of this film. Which is to say: did you like 2006's *Casino Royale*, but wish Daniel Craig gritted his teeth even more? It's gloom, not gadgets, that runs the show here.

Quantum picks up not long after *Casino* left off, with Bond still trying to cope with the death of his girlfriend-turned-betrayer-turned-girlfriend, Vesper Lynd. He's still an active agent with MI6, but is slowly turning into an even looser cannon, and he's using his licence to kill with a bit too much frivolity. As his boss M (Judi Dench) notes, "If you could avoid killing every possible lead, it would be deeply appreciated."

While following up on the Vesper case, Bond ends up in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on the trail of Dominic



This Never Happened To The Other Fellow | Daniel Craig and Olga Kurylenko hood it through the Bolivian desert in *Quantum of Solace*. PHOTO COURTESY OF MGM

Greene (Mathieu Amalric), a slimy faux-environmentalist who finances military coups on the side. Since the organization MI6 is looking for is so secret that nobody even knows what it's called, Bond decides he may as well keep an eye on Greene and his latest client, an ousted Bolivian general — in part because Greene is also buying up all kinds of oil pipeline on the sly, and secretly negotiating with the British and American governments for access.

As the above paragraph demonstrates, the plot is all kinds of rickety, and it's only made worse by the fact that the screenwriters fully expect you to remember every plot point of *Casino Royale*. (Don't worry: I didn't, either.) Undercutting the new mission is Bond's apparent struggle

to contain his thirst for revenge, but director Marc Forster never lets us dig deeper than Craig's ice-blue eyes, and not one scene shows him battling demons of any kind. When Bond lashes out, he looks more like a stone-faced sociopath than an avenging lover.

Casino Royale's added grittiness was rightly hailed as a jump-start for the franchise, but *Quantum of Solace* works with almost nothing but grit. Even the goofiness of Bond's seductions is gone. There are two potential love interests, but the scene in which he sleeps with perky junior agent Strawberry Fields (Gemma Arterton) comes so unexpectedly, and right in the midst of his supposed mourning of Vesper, that it feels more than a little preda-

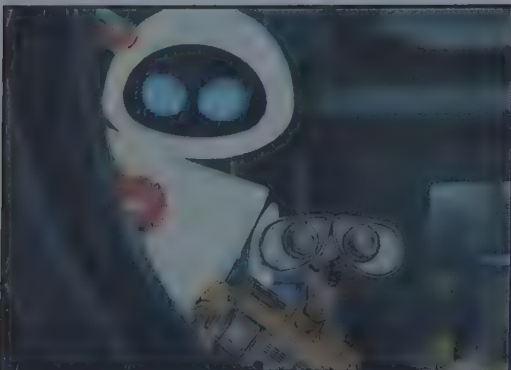
tory.

The other Bond girl, Olga Kurylenko's Camille, fares much better. She's nursing her own revenge plot against the Bolivian general, and when her and Bond team up, she recognizes him as a kindred spirit. And, unlike Bond, we actually see her scars on display: there are the physical burn marks on her back, from when the general set her house on fire as a child, and she has an intense panic attack while trapped in a similar inferno during the climactic fight scene. (Forster trips up big time, however, when he tries to show the flames from her jittery, hyperventilating, barely focused perspective — because that's how he films every scene.)

With zero gadgets, no humour, and

a complicated sense of good and evil, *Quantum of Solace* plays almost entirely against the James Bond type. Aside from the opening car chase, he doesn't even drive an Aston Martin. The film does have a trademark over-the-top credit sequence, full of bullets and exotic female thighs, but even that seems joyless and mechanical.

The fight scenes remain thrilling, and watching Greene's desert rendezvous point slowly explode like a role of cap gun ammo definitely has its visceral appeal. But if Bond is no longer going to be either funny or suave, what distinguishes him from the bland, faceless henchmen he spends most of his time fighting? Most of them wear nice suits too, you know.



In The Future, Hopefully All Technology Will Be This Adorable! | EVE and Wall-E make the cutest non-human couple since C3PO and R2D2 in Pixar's *Wall-E*. PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXAR

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SENTIENT ROBOTS!

Wall-E
VOICE CAST | Ben Burtt, Elisha Knight, Jeff Garlin, Sigourney Weaver, John Ratzenberger

Pixar's computer-animated films are such perfect examples of reliable, technically accomplished entertainment that it would be tempting to think of them as EVE, the state-of-the-art "female" robot who comes to a destroyed Earth in their most recent film *Wall-E*. But they're really more like big-eyed, dinged-up Wall-E himself: underneath all their futuristic-looking machinery, they're humble, quirky, utterly lovable, full of heart — and commendably loyal to John Ratzenberger into the bargain!

VULGAR PRODUCERS!

Tropic Thunder
CAST | Ben Stiller, Robert Downey Jr., Jack Black, Steve Coogan, Tom Cruise

And if you need the warm vibes of *Wall-E* washed out of your system, the cynical, savage Hollywood satire of *Tropic Thunder* might be the perfect antidote. Ben Stiller is the ostensible star, but his familiar Zoolander shtick pales in comparison to Robert Downey Jr.'s near-genius turn as an actor so committed to Method realism that he undergoes pigment-alteration surgery to play a black soldier. His speech warning would-be Oscar winners of the dangers of going "full retard" is already legendary, and deservedly so.

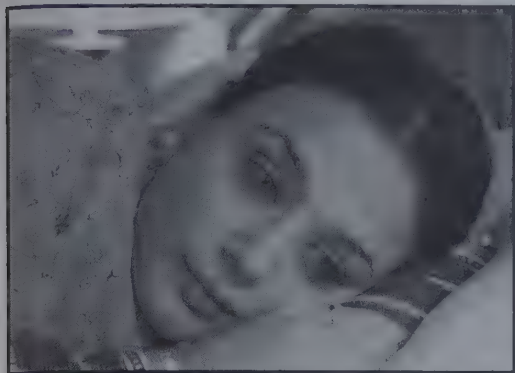
INSANE PENGUINS!

Encounters at the End of the World
DIRECTOR | Werner Herzog

The characters in *Tropic Thunder* wind up wandering the hellish jungle purely by accident; but that's the kind of extreme environment director Werner Herzog deliberately seeks out. *Encounters at the End of the World* is Herzog's eccentric account of his trip to Antarctica, where he meets up with glacier scientists, underwater photographers, descendants of Aztec kings, and various dreamers, drifters, and insane penguins who've found a convivial home upon a seemingly inhospitable continent.

MOVIE REVIEW • MEHTA-FICTION • BY WARREN HAAS (592 words)

Serpentine Logic

Oh! You Pretty Thing | Preity Zinta resorts to mystical solutions to her troubled marriage in *Heaven on Earth*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

I WAS WITH HEAVEN ON EARTH'S TALE OF AN ABUSIVE ARRANGED MARRIAGE... UNTIL THE MAGIC COBRA SHOWED UP

HEAVEN ON EARTH

Directed by Deepa Mehta. Starring Preity Zinta, Vansh Bhardwaj, Ramanjit Kaur, Balinder Johal. Opens Fri, Nov 14.

★★★★☆

The most straightforward way I think of to describe *Heaven on Earth* is to say that it's difficult. It's a hard film to watch – not just because of its mission to question the validity of a vicious patriarchy in an arranged marriage, but also its desire to blend reality and myth to the point where the two become indistinguishable.

Writer/director Deepa Mehta has never shied away from distressing subject matter; her previous films (most recently the Oscar-nominated *Water*, about Hindu "child brides") have controversially depicted different aspects of Indian culture, so perhaps some audiences will find her latest release upsetting simply because once again Mehta dares to suggest that some traditions are wrong.

But *Heaven on Earth* goes to some extreme lengths to prove this fairly basic point. The film begins in India, where Chand (Preity Zinta) is briefly shown to be enjoying her life at home with her parents before being flown to Toronto to marry into a family of strangers. She is understandably timid upon meeting her husband Rocky (Vansh Bhardwaj), and very little is revealed about either of the characters before their marriage ceremony takes place. However Rocky's powerful temper becomes clear very quickly, as he begins hitting Chand whenever she displeases him. While not that graphic, the scenes of domestic violence are quite unsettling, primarily because Bhardwaj is almost expressionless in his performance – you can never be sure when he is going to strike.

All of this takes place in the presence of Rocky's family, who inhabit the same small suburban home. No

one does anything to prevent him from battering Chand; his mother (Balinder Johal) is so conventional in her ways that she sometimes even seems to be encouraging the violence. But each time Chand is assaulted, we understand less and less about why Rocky chooses violence as his only means of expression. The only thing we know is that if an arranged marriage leads to abuse, then it is wrong – but that much is clear from the first time Chand is slapped for offering an unsolicited opinion.

There's more to *Heaven on Earth* than brutality, but it's hard to be certain what that is. Mehta based her script on an Indian folktale about ■ lonely wife and ■ cobra snake, so viewers should not be in total shock when a snake is born out of the ground from a supposedly magic potion that Chand dumps in her backyard. The problem is, up to this point, the film has shown us so much realistic violence that the sudden turn towards the mythical takes you aback. Thankfully, Chand herself seems equally confused by this turn of events; she starts seeing the cobra come inside the house and even experiences hallucinations where it transforms into a lifelike representation of the husband she wishes she had.

Preity Zinta plays this confusion well – too well, actually; she is so bewildered in the second half of the film that it's impossible to pinpoint when her character goes from timid to headstrong. One moment Chand can't look anyone in the eye, the next she's forcing a climactic confrontation with Rocky and his family. How did this happen? All I know for sure is that the snake had something to do with it.

Strangely little time is given to clarify this uncertainty before the abrupt ending – one wonders whether a scene or two is missing. Mehta definitely wants to teach viewers something beyond the perils of arranged marriages, but her blurring of reality and fantasy makes for a film that's more perplexing than intriguing.

MOVIE REVIEW • POST-APATOW COMEDY • BY MICHAEL HINGSTON (612 words)

There Will Be Rudd

PAUL RUDD'S ROLE MODELS CHARACTER HATES CLICHÉS... BUT HE'S IN A MOVIE FULL OF HACKNEYED SITUATIONS

ROLE MODELS

Directed by David Wain. Starring Paul Rudd, Seann William Scott, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Elizabeth Banks, Jane Lynch. Now playing.

★★★★☆

Paul Rudd's character in *Role Models*, a cynical energy drink salesman, hates verbal kitsch. Clichés, business jargon, fridge-magnet philosophy – he can't stand any of it. His Danny Donahue is the kind of guy who will go out of his way to remind a Starbucks barista that "venti" doesn't actually mean "large," and whose face clenches up when he hears someone suggest that if you really love something, you should set it free. When his fed-up girlfriend (Elizabeth Banks) confronts him about a recently picked fight, Danny is indignant: "She said 'ASAP'!"

So it's not so bad that he gets dumped and then, along with his co-worker (Seann William Scott), accidentally does some severe property damage with the company truck, thereby getting them both sentenced to 150 hours of community service.

No, far worse to Danny is having to deal with all new kinds of verbal diarrhea at Sturdy Wings, the Big Brother-type program they get assigned to. There's the program leader's (Jane Lynch) exaggerated "no-bullshit" speeches, the esoteric medievalisms favoured by the nerd he's matched up with (Christopher Mintz-Plasse, in his first role since McLovin in *Superbad*), and the geysers of sex talk that fires out of Scott's assigned "little" Ronnie (Bobb'e J. Thompson), at a truly alarming rate.

It's admirable that director and co-writer David Wain sets his scope a bit wider in his manchild-forced-into-maturity story, but picking on clichés is actually a strange move, since *Role Models* seems eager to wrap itself in all the current conventions of mainstream comedy. Wain and Rudd (who also receives a co-writing credit) have made a movie that's pleasant, even sometimes heartfelt, but it certainly doesn't ruffle any feathers – and for every great dig at macho jargon they get in, there's at least two Apatowisms that float by unnoticed. At this point, which is the more deserving target?

While there isn't a lot of bite to the material, Rudd has no trouble carrying most of it himself. He's a handsome and charming guy, no question about it, and Danny is an interesting role for him – mostly because for about half of the film he's completely unlikeable. You expect that



The World According To LARP | Christopher Mintz-Plasse plays a nerdy medieval roleplayer and Paul Rudd is his mentor in *Role Models*. PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

his hatred of facetiousness will help Mintz-Plasse become better adjusted and get the girl (in this case, a doe-eyed teenage princess at the medieval re-enactments he attends) but it actually turns out to be a liability: Danny makes fun of him and everyone else there, eventually getting his mentee banned from the competition entirely.

The other performances, however, are hit-and-miss. Lynch has some good lines about her (possibly fake) background as a cocaine addict, but neither of the kids are all that funny, and Scott doesn't seem to have advanced much beyond his Stifler character from the *American Pie* franchise – which celebrates its 10th birthday next year, by the way. *Role Models* also marks Banks' third female lead in the past month (along

with *W* and *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*), though she's given absolutely nothing to do here. More memorable are Scott's beloved KISS pinball machine, as well as the various species of geek who run around the forest with Mintz-Plasse, hollering in fractured Middle English.

The big disappointment isn't even that *Role Models* isn't very funny – though that obviously doesn't help. Coming from someone like Wain, whose work with the comedy troupe Stella is as gleefully absurd as it gets, the real letdown is that it's so... normal. Rudd has the perfect everyman look, and great comic instincts to boot, but the best thing to do with an everyman is toss him, head over heels, into the bizarre. A forest full of nerds – even nerds in homemade chainmail – just doesn't cut it.

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MOVIE PREVIEW • NSFWI! • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 731 words

"The Amadeus Of Dirty Music"



He Likes To Fuck | Larry Pierce bangs out another radio-unfriendly hit from his basement "studio" in Dirty Country. PHOTO SUPPLIED

LARRY PIERCE MAY LOOK NORMAL, BUT DIRTY COUNTRY REVEALS HIM TO BE THE FILTHIEST SONGWRITER IN AMERICA

DIRTY COUNTRY

Directed by Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher. Featuring Larry Pierce, Itis, Blowfly, John "Dr. Dirty" Valtby. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). Nov 13-15, 17.

★★★★☆

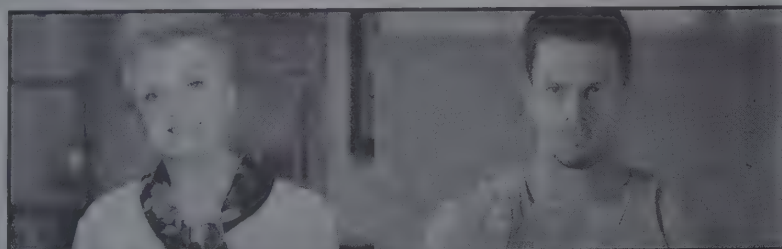
Larry Pierce lives in the small town of Middletown, Indiana. He's in his fifties and he has the gut, the thinning hair, and the out-of-style moustache

to prove it. His fashion sense seems to be dictated by whatever's on sale at the Wal-Mart: acid-washed denim shorts, cheap shirts, white socks, running shoes. He's been married to the same woman for 22 years, and still goes dancing with her at the bar. If he has friends over, they usually barbecue some hamburgers, drink some beers, and play a few rounds of washer toss. He works at a local auto parts factory – or at least he did until recently, when they laid him off after 30 years of employment.

But luckily Larry has a second career to fall back on: every few

months, he goes down to the basement, sits on a stool in his workshop – the one with all the wrenches and hammers hanging neatly on the wall behind him – and writes country songs. Really, really filthy country songs. Songs with titles like "Will You Swallow My Cum?", "Sleep Right Next to Your Pussy," "Hike Your Skirt Up Higher (Stank Up the Whole Room)," "Good Hard Fucking," the immortal "Worthless Cunt," and the admirably blunt "I Like to Fuck." He's recorded more than a dozen albums of incredibly

DIRTY COUNTRY cont'd p. 33



I Want To See You Sweat... One Of You, Anyway | Exercise guru Angela Lansbury and Mark Wahlberg feel the burn at the Found Footage Festival. FILE PHOTOS

I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND ALL THE FOOTAGE I'M LOOKING FOR

Dirty Country isn't the only taste of Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher's work Edmontonians will be getting this weekend: they'll also be here in person at Metro Cinema on Saturday to host the **Found Footage Film Festival**, a collection of bizarre, sometimes disturbing, but always amusing clips from obscure and forgotten videotapes they've discovered during years of combing through thrift stores and garage sales.

"We have three main criteria," Prueher says. "First, it needs to be legitimately found – we don't take anything off the internet.

The story behind finding it almost has to be as interesting as anything on the tape. Second, it's got to be unintentionally funny. That's our bread and butter: something that was intended to be serious but colossally fails. And third, something we're really drawn to is people with a lot of ambition but very little talent."

Among their prize finds: an instructional video called *How to Seduce Women Through Hypnosis* (which Prueher says "manages to be even creepier than its title suggests"); a clip from a cable-access TV show in which a man demonstrates how to extract mucus from his mouth using grape juice and a spray bottle; and exercise videos starring Marky

Mark Wahlberg and a scantily clad Angela Lansbury... although thankfully not together. "We've gotten better at telling just from the box cover whether the tape has potential or not," Prueher says, "but even then, maybe only one out of every 15 tapes makes the cut. Finding something that's bad in just the right way – it's like a needle in a haystack. But it's the thrill of the hunt. We've waded through hours of dreadfully boring office meetings and home movies of people opening presents, but when you find that one video where it's a bunch of rednecks having a debauchorous Memorial Day and setting things on fire, you go, 'Okay – this is why we do it.'" — Paul Matwychuk

DIRTY COUNTRY (cont'd from p. 32)

raunchy music, earning himself a devoted underground following consisting largely of truckers who buy his cassettes from those spin racks at roadside convenience stores, next to the beef jerky and the off-brand pornographic magazines.

That's where filmmakers Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher discovered Pierce's work some 15 years ago. "We were on a road trip in Wisconsin in high school," Prueher says over the phone from his home in Brooklyn. "We were looking for something to entertain ourselves and we found this tape called *Songs for Studs*. It had this hick on the cover with a hat doing a funny face, and it was \$5.99. So we said, 'We've got to get this and see what's on here.' We popped it in, and it was pretty well-written original country music, but with just the filthiest lyrics you'd ever heard. He

didn't beat around the bush. You just had to wonder, 'Who is this guy?'"

Years later, Pickett and Prueher managed to track down Pierce and make him the central figure in their documentary *Dirty Country*, which places Pierce in the context of what

is the film's most compelling figure — in large part because he otherwise seems so normal, so clean-cut, so quintessentially, mayonnaise-eatingly middle-American, and has apparently no interest in examining why he's so drawn to writing

about the way he does it so unself-consciously that makes it work. There's no artifice or pretense about what he does at all. You look at his salt-of-the-earth fans or his factory-worker buddies, and it's all spawned from that blue-collar American en-

vironment. I think he's more reflective of what true Americans are like than these factory-produced Top 40 artists that have so much polish put into them."

And in fact, one of the sweetest stories that emerges from *Dirty Country* begins when Pierce meets up with — itis, a younger bunch of musicians who also play dirty country, but give the genre a more theatrical redneck/punk spin. (Translation: lots of gags involving gigantic inflatable penises.) Turns out, not only does everyone in —itis adore Larry Pierce, but they also agree to become his backing band, and their youthful energy and marketing savvy give fresh momentum to Pierce's stalled career.

"YOU LOOK AT LARRY'S FANS OR HIS BUDDIES, AND IT'S ALL SPAWNED FROM THAT BLUE-COLLAR AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT. I THINK HE'S MORE REFLECTIVE OF WHAT TRUE AMERICANS ARE LIKE THAN THESE FACTORY-PRODUCED TOP 40 ARTISTS THAT HAVE SO MUCH POLISH PUT INTO THEM."

turns out to be a long American tradition of X-rated pop music. Among the other artists Pickett and Prueher profile: fraternity favourites Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts; piano-playing raunchmeister John "Dr. Dirty" Valby; and R&B madman and rap-music innovator Blowfly. But Pierce

dirty songs.

"It was a little frustrating at times," Prueher says. "We'd try to dig a little deeper, but he doesn't see anything unusual about it at all. We think of him as the Amadeus of dirty music: God speaks to him, and this is what he's born to do. There's something

environment. I think he's more reflective of what true Americans are like than these factory-produced Top 40 artists that have so much polish put into them."

And in fact, one of the sweetest stories that emerges from *Dirty Country* begins when Pierce meets

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MOVIE GUIDE WHAT'S PLAYING IN THE THEATRES

OPENING THIS WEEK

DIRTY COUNTRY

Directors Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher's documentary about the underground American culture of X-rated musicians and songwriters, focusing on Larry Pierce, a small-town factory worker with a second career as a singer of incredibly raunchy country music. *Metro Cinema*: Nov 13-15, 17 (Thu @ 7 & 9pm; Fri and Mon @ 9:30pm; Sat @ 11pm)

FOUND FOOTAGE FILM FESTIVAL

Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher curate a collection of home movies, industrial training videos, and other unusual cinematic ephemera culled from thrift shops, goodwill stores, and dumpsters across America. *Metro Cinema*: Sat, Nov 15 (7 & 9pm)

HEAVEN ON EARTH

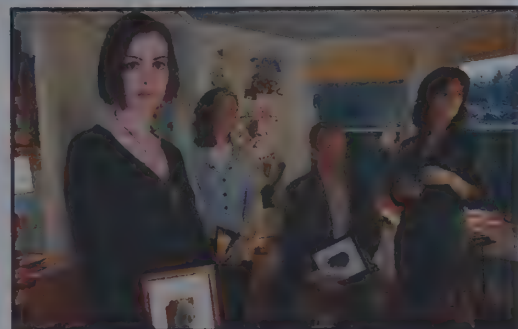
Pretty Zinta and Vansh Bhardwaj star in *Water* writer/director Deepa Mehta's magical-realist drama about a young Punjabi woman who resorts to an occult remedy to improve her abusive arranged marriage to an Indo-Canadian man.

QUANTUM OF SOLACE

Daniel Craig, Olga Kurylenko, Mathieu Amalric, Giancarlo Giannini, Jeffrey Wright, and Judi Dench star in *Monster's Ball* director Marc Forster's latest entry in the James Bond franchise, in which Agent 007 battles a ruthless businessman with a plan to control Bolivia's natural resources.

SCREENING THE T

A selection of documentary shorts and features dealing with the transgender experience. Films include: *Screaming Queens: The Riots at Compton Cafeteria* (dir: Susan Stryker, Victor Silverman), screening with *F to M* (dir: Sarah Claudon); Sun, Nov 16 @ 5pm. *The Amazing Truth About Queen Raquela* (dir: Olaf de Fleur Johannesson), screening with *Rostrum Press: Materials Testing* (dir: Chris Gehrmann); Sun, Nov 16 @ 7pm. *The Believers* (dir: Todd Holland), screening with *The Garden*



Draw Your What | Britt Paltrow shows off his guns in this wholesome movie. PHOTO SUPPLIED

of *Earthly Delights* (dir: Izabella Prushka Oldenhof); Sun, Nov 16 @ 9pm. *She's a Boy I Knew* (dir: Gwen Haworth), screening with *Fissures* (dir: Louise Bourque); Mon, Nov 17 @ 7pm. *Metro Cinema*

ALSO PLAYING

CHANGELING

Shameless Oscar bait. It's two and a half hours of Angelina Jolie sobbing over her missing son, fighting the corrupt LAPD, getting tossed into an insane asylum, and looking very stylish in a cloche hat, red lipstick, and fur-collared coat.

★★★★☆

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY

Mike Leigh's character study of a relentlessly cheerful London schoolteacher is a small miracle. You can simply bask in its feel-good vibes, or you can dive a little deeper and appreciate its subtly profound commentary on the meaning of happiness and the mystery of human nature.

★★★★★

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR

What's so bad about a squeaky-clean musical with high production values and genuinely exciting dancing? Nothing whatsoever!

★★★★☆

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA

It's a little top-heavy with celebrity voices, but there are enough clever gags lurking around the edges to make this a painless night out with the kids.

★★★★☆

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED

This absolutely sublime ensemble drama starring Anne Hathaway as a drug addict attending her sister's wedding is a welcome return to form for director Jonathan Demme, whose optimistic vision of a multicultural America, embrace of humanity in all its flaws, and love of great music have never been more evident.

★★★★★

ROCKNROLLA

Guy Ritchie's latest comic crime caper — a Tarantino movie for people who find Tarantino too cerebral and talky — may not be the most demanding film in theatres right now, but it's brash, colourful, and goes out of its way to keep you entertained.

★★★★☆

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES

Honey-coated whimsy about a runaway girl in 1964 North Carolina who finds a home with a trio of nurturing African sisters. The racial politics are a bit cloying, but director Gina Prince-Bythewood has her heart in the right place and the actresses have genuine chemistry together.

★★★★☆

TELL NO ONE

This French thriller reaches a disappointingly prosaic climax, but the twisty road leading up to it (especially the awesomely well-staged foot chase at the halfway mark) is very much worth the price of admission.

★★★★☆

W.

Oliver Stone's Bush biopic is less incendiary and stylistically experimental than you might expect from the man who made *JFK* and *The Doors*. It has more curiosity value than artistic merit, but it's still a must-see.

★★★★☆

ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORN

The mixture of raunchy humour and sentimental romance recalls Judd Apatow, but the clumsy directing and screenwriting mark this likable but lazy comedy as a Kevin Smith creation through and through.

★★★★☆

PRINCESS

10337 - 82 Ave



happy-go-lucky

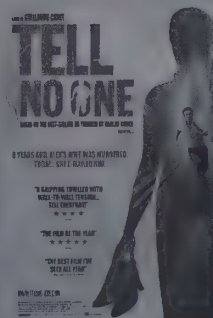


Happy Go Lucky

SAT & SUN MATINEES @ 1:00 PM
Rated 14A COARSE LANGUAGE

Heaven On Earth

NIGHTLY @ 6:50 & 9:00 PM
SAT & SUN MATINEES @ 2:00 PM
Rated 14A COARSE LANGUAGE, DRUGS, MILD SMOKING



Tell No One

NIGHTLY @ 6:45 & 9:15 PM
SAT & SUN MATINEES @ 3:30 PM
Rated 14A VIOLENCE, COARSE LANGUAGE, DRUGS

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ANNE HATHAWAY ROSEMARIE DeWITT BILL IRWIN TUNDE ADEBIMPE MATHER ZICKEL ANNA DEAVERE SMITH DEBRA WINGER



"ANNE HATHAWAY DELIVERS A REVOLUTIONARY PERFORMANCE...EXPECT OSCAR TO CALL!"

Rick Green, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

"A TRIUMPH FOR JONATHAN DEMME! HIS BEST FILM SINCE 'THE SILENCE OF THE LAMBS'!"

Owen Gleiberman, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"THE BEST AMERICAN MOVIE OF THE YEAR!"

David Poland, MOVIE CITY NEWS

"SUPERIOR FILMMAKING!"

Rex Reed, NEW YORK OBSERVER



Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

"PERFECTION IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO MISS."

A.O. SCOTT, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"A MASTERPIECE"

David Edelstein, NEW YORK MAGAZINE

"I LOVE THIS MOVIE!"

Ty Burr, BOSTON GLOBE



NOW MAGAZINE EYE WEEKLY THE NATIONAL POST

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED

A JONATHAN DEMME PICTURE

14+ COARSE LANGUAGE MATURE THEMES

NOW PLAYING!

Check theatre directories for showtimes

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Peter Howell, THE TORONTO STAR

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"MEHTA'S FINEST FILM!"

Matthew Hays, MONTREAL MIRROR

Heaven on Earth

A DELTA MENTA FILM



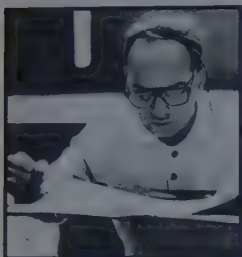
14+ COARSE LANGUAGE MATURE THEMES

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT STARTS FRIDAY!

Check theatre directories for showtimes

PRINCESS THEATRE
1035 30 AVE. 533-9170

BEYOND THE BLURBS • ALTERNATIVE CITIES HAVE THEIR SAY



Magnifico! Not that you asked, but we here at SEF have a special fondness for Ennio Morricone's score for John Carpenter's *The Thing*. FILE PHOTO

THIS WEEK: ENNIO MORRICONE TURNS 80

Tim Lucas, *Video Watchdog* | There is obviously no shortage of music of the highest quality in Ennio Morricone's filmography, found in pictures as well-known as *The Mission* or *Cinema Paradiso*, or as beloved as *Danger: Diabolik*, or as obscure as *Veruschka* and *Meti una sera a cena*. He has also written music that has imbued some otherwise tepid films with the very deepest and richest of emotions — Adrian Lyne's version of *Lolita* comes to mind, a film I like primarily because of

what Morricone's music does for it. As surely as Morricone coined the musical landscape of the Italian Western, he did the same for the Italian thrillers of the 1970s, beginning with Dario Argento's *The Bird With the Crystal Plumage*, but continuing with *The Cat o' Nine Tails* and *Four Flies on Grey Velvet*, and carrying on with other examples such as *Who Saw Her Die?*, *Spasma*, and the under-rated Jean-Paul Belmondo vehicle *Peur sur la Ville*. I don't think it is possible to say of any other composer short of Bernard Herrmann, but the effect of Ennio Morricone on our understanding of the language available to

cinema has truly been incalculable. But the full breadth and depth of that contribution is oh so tempting to calculate."

Dennis Cozzalio, *Sergio Leone and the Infield Fly Rule* | "If he'd only written the theme from *Once Upon a Time in the West*, well, we might have begged for more but would have had to admit that such haunted loveliness would be more than we could ever expect from the average composer. But he gave us so much more. Some of my personal favorites would have to include the mournful dread of his scores for Brian De Palma,

including *Casualties of War* and *Mission to Mars* (and, of course, the thrusting toughness of *The Untouchables*); the playfulness of his melodies for *Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down!* which underscored the ambivalence we were feeling about the situation of the characters onscreen; the soaring stories of the countryside and the people that infuse his beautiful music for *Days of Heaven* and *1900*; and of course the inimitable (though so many have tried) whistles and blasts and twangs and crescendos and sudden silences he created for the *Dollars* films — music to score a life by, and many of us have done just that."



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Scotiabank Theatre Edmonton

with IMAX®

SHOWTIMES NOVEMBER 13 TO 19, 2008

GARNEAU		LEDUC CINEMAS		NORTH EDMONTON		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN		CINEMA CITY MOVIES 12	
8712-109 STREET • 433-0728		4702/501 St. Louis • 866-2728		14231-137th Avenue • 732-2223		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40		130 AVENUE 650 STREET • 479-7779	
RACHEL GETTING MARRIED		ZACK & MIMI MAKE A PORN		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		CITY OF EMER	
Nightly 6:50, 9:10, Sat/Sun & Tues matinees 2:00, Coarse language, sexual content		Nightly 7:10, 9:35, matinees Sat/Sun Mon & Tues 1:10, 3:35		Fr, Mon, Wed-Thurs 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:45, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45, Tues 12:00, 2:30, 3:45, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:40, Sat & Sun/Thurs 1:00, No passes		Fr/Sat 12:00, 4:10, 6:55, 9:10, 11:35, Sun/Thurs 1:20, 4:10, 6:55, 9:10		Fr 12:00, 4:10, 6:55, 9:10, 11:35, Sun/Thurs 1:20, 4:10, 6:55, 9:10	
PRINCESS		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		ROLE MODELS		NICK & NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST	
10237-82 AVENUE • 433-0728		Nightly 7:05, 9:25, matinees Sat/Sun Mon & Tues 1:05, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:20, 4:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:00, 9:25, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:50, 2:40, 4:20, 4:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:00, 9:25, No passes		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:00, 7:00, 9:35, Sat/Sun 1:25, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
HEAVEN ON EARTH		ROLE MODELS		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		RELIGIOUS	
Nightly 6:50, 9:10, Sat & Sun matinees 2:00, Coarse language, violence, mature themes		Nightly 7:00, 9:35, matinees Sat/Sun Mon & Tues 1:00, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 1:40, 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, No passes		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 1:40, 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, No passes		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
TELL NO ONE		HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR		ROLE MODELS		BOIT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D		IGOR	
Nightly 6:45, 9:15, Sat & Sun matinees 3:30		Nightly 6:55, 9:20, matinees Sat/Sun Mon & Tues 12:55, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Snack Preview Sat 7:00, IMAX passes		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
HAPPY GO LUCKY		WETASKIWIN CINEMA 4 PLEX		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		LAKEVIEW TERRACE	
Sat & Sun matinees 1:00, Coarse language		380156 Wetaskiwin • 552-9722		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
PARKLAND		PRIDE AND GLORY		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		CHANGELING		MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL	
205 Main Street, Space Grove • 942-2232		Daily 6:50, 9:30, matinees Sat/Sun 12:55, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
QUANTUM OF SOLACE		ROLE MODELS		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		CHANGELING		GHOST TOWN	
Nightly 6:55, 9:10, matinees Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:30		Daily 7:10, 9:35, matinees Sat/Sun 1:10, 3:35		Nightly 7:05, 9:25, matinees Sat/Sun 1:05, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:25, 6:50, Sat/Sun 12:30, 3:25, 6:35, 7:50		Fr/Sat 1:55, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50, 12:10, Sun/Thurs 1:55, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50	
MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		THE HOUSE BUNNY	
Nightly 6:50, 7:10, matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 12:45, 3:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Nightly 6:55, 9:05, matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 12:50, 3:20		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
ZACK & MIMI MAKE A PORN		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		PASSCHENDAELE		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		THE HOUSE BUNNY	
Nightly 7:15, 9:25, matinees Sat, Sun & Tues 1:15, 3:15		Nightly 7:05, 9:25, matinees Sat/Sun 1:05, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:45, 6:40, 9:30, Sat/Sun 1:10, 3:35		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		MAX PATRINE		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		TROPIC THUNDER	
Nightly 6:45, 9:05, matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 12:50, 3:20		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 12:40, 3:20, 6:20, Violence		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
ROLE MODELS		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		ROCKNROLLA		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		STEP BROTHERS	
Nightly 7:15, 9:25, matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 12:55, 3:05		Nightly 7:05, 9:25, matinees Sat/Sun 1:05, 3:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
EAGLE EYE		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		EAGLE EYE		CHANGELING		THE DARK KNIGHT	
Nightly 7:00, 9:10, matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 1:05, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA		ROLE MODELS		BOIT		CHANGELING		THE DARK KNIGHT	
Matinees Sat/Sun & Tues 1:10, 3:10		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Snack Preview Sat 7:00		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
PASSCHENDAELE		HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR SING-ALONG		SCOTIABANK THEATRE		CHANGELING		MAMMA MIA!	
Nightly 7:05 & 9:20, Coarse language, sexual content		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		WEST EDMONTON MALL • 888-170 STREET • 444-7400		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
METRO CINEMA		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		CHANGELING		HALLOWEEN	
9870-101A AVENUE (EDUBUR HALL) • CITYCENTRE THEATRE • 425-9712		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
DIRTY COUNTRY		HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR		CITY CENTRE 9 CINEMAS		CHANGELING		WAXWORKS	
Thurs 7:00 & 9:00, Fri & Sat 9:30, Sun 11:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		3RD FLOOR PHASE II, 101 ST & 102 AVE • 471-7020		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
FEARS '08 IMAGES: CASTING CALL AFGHANISTAN CANADA 2008		SAW V		ROLE MODELS		CHANGELING		KUNG FU PANDA	
Fri 7:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr/Sat 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, Sat/Sun 1:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40	
FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL		CHANGELING		QUANTUM OF SOLACE		CHANGELING		GALAXY CINEMAS	
Sat 7:00 & 9:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Nightly 6:50, 7:10, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		2970 SHEPHERD AVE., SHEPHERD PARK • 476-0150	
COFFEE WITH JAMES (LECTURE)		PASSCHENDAELE		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN		CHANGELING		QUANTUM OF SOLACE	
Sun 11:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sun/Thurs 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
SCREAMING QUEENS W/T O M		MAX PATRINE		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA	
Sun 5:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
THE AMAZING TRUTH ABOUT QUEEN RAQUEL W/ASTRUP PRESS: MATERIALS TESTING		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA	
Sun 7:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
THE BELIEVERS W/GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ROLE MODELS	
Sun 9:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
SHRIMP & Y KNEW W/ISSUES		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN	
Mon 7:00		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
GRANDIN THEATRE		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ROLE MODELS	
GRANDIN MALL, 510 WINDSOR CHURCHILL AVE., ST. ALBERT • 458-8822		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR		EAGLE EYE		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN	
Daily 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:15		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ROLE MODELS	
Daily 3:35, 5:35, 7:35, 9:30		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
MAMMA MIA		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN	
Daily 1:25		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
ROLE MODELS		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ROLE MODELS	
Daily 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
QUANTUM OF SOLACE		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ZACK AND MIMI MAKE A PORN	
Daily 1:15, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:15, No passes		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	
MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA		BOIT		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		ROLE MODELS	
Daily 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:50		Fr, Mon-Thurs 4:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50, Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:25		CHANGELING		CHANGELING		Fr 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, Sat/Sun 12:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:20, No passes	

THEATRE PREVIEW • TALKIN' WITH HAGEN • BY KATHLEEN BELL | 523 words

Loud, Queer, And Apparently Unstoppable

NOW IN ITS 17TH YEAR, EDMONTON'S BIGGEST QUEER-POSITIVE CABARET LASSOES ANOTHER STELLAR LINEUP

LOUD & QUEER CABARET

Hosted by Darrin Hagen and Kristy Harcourt. La Cité Franophone (867-91 51), Nov 14-15 (7:30pm). Tickets available through Workshop West (477-5955)

"A negative experience with being queer galvanizes the community," starts Darrin Hagen, clearly and calmly. "It doesn't seem like it at the time. Coming through something like that, whether it's homophobia, gay-bashing, a politician badmouthing your community or Ralph Klein standing up and stamping his chubby foot saying he refuses to allow gay marriage ... Every time the gay community or the queer community gets through something like that, we become stronger."

It's one of the few moments of solemnity in my conversation with Hagen, one of Edmonton's MACs — Most Awesome Citizens. And yes, I just made that acronym up, but it fits. The city's pre-eminent drag queen, Hagen is a playwright, author, television host (saving many a student's education for nine years on *Help!TV*) and host of the 17th annual Loud & Queer Cabaret.

The Cabaret has the distinction of being Western Canada's longest-running showcase of queer writers. The show features poetry, short plays, monologues, short stories, musical performances, and anything else you can think of that can be written down and presented. In Canada its longevity is second only to the Rhubarb Festival in Toronto. But you don't get this far without help and, as mentioned above, a little hardship. One moment in particular sticks

with Hagen.

"I think it was our second or third year and we got a call from ITV," he says. "This was the first big media coverage that we had. We were totally ready for it. They brought the cameras in. They did interviews with the actors, with the writers, with the artistic director and all this stuff. Well, when the piece showed up on ITV it was called 'You Paid For It.' It was all about how tax money is going to talk about queer art. Which, of course, is not true because it's not tax money at all; it's actually lottery money that funds the arts. The whole piece was completely misrepresented."

Instead of a little extra promotion, the report ended up, as Hagen puts it "slamming" the operation. The result, however, was an unforeseen waterfall of support for the show. "It was the first moment where I actually saw the queer artistic community rise up against the big media monster," Hagen explains.

Over a decade later, the Cabaret is still here and only getting stronger. This year's event is two nights, with 32 contributors from as far away as New York. And its mission is as clear as ever: to be a constructive and affirming affair for both the writers and the audience — the requirement for either simply being that you have to be "queer-positive." The community gets the rare opportunity to see their stories reflected back at them, an experience that can fluctuate from funny to moving to freeing.

"I got a piece submitted to me this year by Laurie MacFayden," says Hagen. "It's a woman sitting in a church as the minister goes on and on at a funeral. She realizes that the minister doesn't know a thing about her friend Teddy. What's going on



Hootenanny State | Marshall Watson, Nancy Price, and Bianca tune up for this year's "Way Out West"-themed Loud & Queer Cabaret. PHOTO BY MERVY SMITH/LAWTON

in her head as she is hearing this crap that you hear at church funerals, about how he's a servant of God and blah, blah, blah, while in reality this guy was fun, snarky, involved in his community, uppity and all those

things that a gay man can be. I got to the end of the piece and I started to cry, because I've been to funerals like that."

Writers, on the other hand, get the chance to have their stories heard by

an enthusiastic audience.

"If anyone wants to go through the hell and torture and sheer ecstasy of labouring over a piece of work, damn it, after all that work it deserves to be heard."



Do The Loco-Motion | Buster Keaton's 1927 landmark of silent cinema *The General* will be making plenty of noise at the Winspear this Thursday courtesy of Bill Eddins and the ESO. PHOTO SUPPLIED

ARTS NEWS • NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE BOOKSTORE

BUSTER!

Caviar To The General

Somewhere at the bottom of a gorge in Oregon, so the story goes, lies the locomotive that Buster Keaton destroyed while filming *The General*. The train cannot be recovered, but thankfully the film lives on — and Edmontonians will get to experience a deluxe version of it at the Winspear on Nov. 20, when conductor William Eddins (who's made no secret of his fondness for silent comedy) and the ESO present a special screening of Keaton's masterpiece with live orchestral accompaniment. But how the musicians will be able to concentrate on Eddins during the brilliant cannonball sequence is beyond us.

BOHEMIANS!

Oil And Parisians Don't Mix

It's easy to see what attracted ABBEDAM Productions to Jean Giraudoux' *The Madwoman of Chailiot*: the story of a group of bohemians who band together to foil the capitalists who plan to destroy Paris to drill for oil underneath its streets is an appealing fantasy for artists who've watched in horror as Suncor and Syncrude plunder the oil sands. "Nothing is ever so wrong in this world that a sensible woman can't set it right in the course of an afternoon," says the title character — but Arts News suspects Alberta will take longer to fix. The play runs 'til Nov. 15 at the Timms Centre's Second Playing Space.

BOYDEN!

Natural Born Gillers

As far as Arts News is concerned, any literary prize that has gone to M.G. Vassanji not just once but twice is automatically suspect, but that doesn't mean we're not pleased to see that Joseph Boyden won the 2008 **Giller Prize** for Canadian fiction in a ceremony in Toronto on Tuesday night for his novel *Through Black Spruce*. Canadian Press called the ceremony "glittering." AP called it "glitzy;" and the *Globe and Mail* called it "lavish." Say: could this be what Stephen Harper was thinking of when he complained about artists sipping champagne at "rich galas"? Imagine... Harper watches the GillerCast!

WORLD PREMIERE WITHOUT YOU

BY NICOLE
MOELLER
DIRECTED BY
BRADLEY MOSS

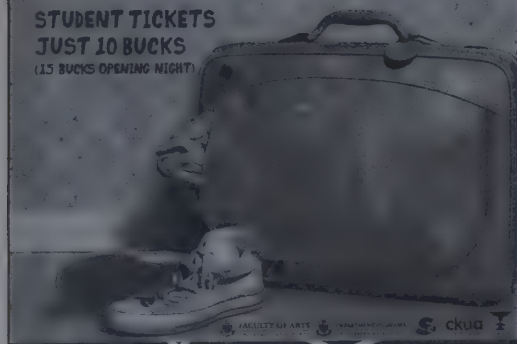
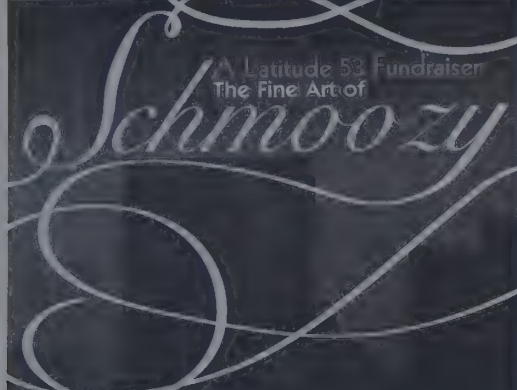
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CROSSTALK • VISUAL ARTS | 176 words

Let 100 Flowers Bloom!



ART BOX MANDY ESPEZEL & JILL STANTON
**WAYNE YUNG TRANSLATES
HIS LIFE AS A GAY CHINESE-
CANADIAN MAN INTO VISUAL
TERMS ANYONE CAN ENJOY**

This week, Jill and Mandy fly through Wayne Yung's field of 100 Flowers, a collection of the Chinese-Canadian artist's newest video-flavoured works.

Jill: Wasn't this a fun one! Well, I had fun with it, anyway. As soon as you enter the main gallery space of Latitude 53, you are met with a giant video projection of... a whole lot of flowers. Oh, and boys making out with each other!

Mandy: Lots and lots of making out, this is true. Yung's exhibition is a part of Exposure, Edmonton's Queer Arts & Culture Festival. His work examines ideas of identity from his unique perspective as a gay Chinese-Canadian man who has lived abroad. You called this a "fun" exhibition, Jill, what do you mean by that?

Jill: Wait a second, don't pigeon-hole me! Yung is a young man who doesn't take himself too seriously and can have a laugh here and there. His



Feeling Yung! ...and fondling him and kissing him: Wayne Yung throws himself into his artwork in 100 Flowers. IMAGE BY WAYNE YUNG

in sexual context with other men. But he also recognizes the power that humour has to defuse and enlighten. The impression I got was that he's making fun of people's fears about homosexuality as much as he is confronting and investigating the more ridiculous and exaggerated stereotypes. Prime example: swimming dildos.

Jill: Ha ha ha ha – yes. I would have to agree with you here. I think you have the right idea; Yung's videos are undeniably both celebratory and confrontational. The title of this exhibition refers to an old Chinese proverb – "Let 100 flowers bloom, let 100 schools of thought contend" – but applies it in a way that was

ing just about "him" and his personal experiences being homosexual, Yung manages to develop a broader theme that allows his work to encompass society and culture in a more inclusive way. He has avoided the "me and my personal bubble" tendencies that I think plague a lot of artists, heterosexual and homosexual alike. Do you know what I mean?

Mandy: I think so. I'd say we're both on the same page here; we're just approaching Yung's work from different directions. The strength of what he's done lies in his ability to be both specific and universal – to speak about something that holds a fundamental importance and significance to himself as an individual,

**YUNG'S WORK IS DEFINITELY PERSONAL, BUT HE DEVELOPS A BROADER
THEME THAT ALLOWS HIS WORK TO AVOID THE "ME AND MY PERSONAL
BUBBLE" TENDENCIES THAT I THINK PLAGUE A LOT OF ARTISTS,
HETEROSEXUAL AND HOMOSEXUAL ALIKE.**

video installation proves it. When you walk into that room and are confronted with such powerful, blatant imagery paired with giant, colourful, beautiful flowers, you can't help but... well, laugh a little bit. It's part of all of us, I think. That main part of Yung's exhibit is eye-catching and visually appealing, but it makes you feel a little bit uncomfortable at the same time, the way you get when you catch someone making out right in front of you. I mean, you have to admit, it's a little funny!

Mandy: I thought the individual video pieces that you sit and listen to were funny too, and intentionally so. Yung's work is unapologetic in its subject matter; it confronts the viewer with bold images of men

perhaps not originally intended. I thought this was a pretty clever way for Yung to introduce himself into the narrative in a not-overly-personal way.

Mandy: I'm not quite sure what you mean by that. Do you not think the work *should* be personal? I mean, the main video consists essentially of images of himself making out with a variety of men, rotating in front of corresponding flowers. I see this as a very personal reflection on his own role and relationship within an alternative and structured community.

Jill: Here you are, putting words in my mouth again! The work is definitely personal, I'm not arguing that; all I'm saying is that instead of be-

ing to create within his work something that can be accessed by a larger demographic. So, in this exhibition, we see a young man addressing issues that affect his own life in a very direct way (being homosexual, being of Asian descent), but we also see him bring a creativity, an inventiveness, and a sense of humour to them, which makes this exhibition accessible even to audiences who don't have first-hand knowledge of that experience. Just look at the titles he uses within the show: "Fantasy," "Identity," "Desire." These are things we all experience.

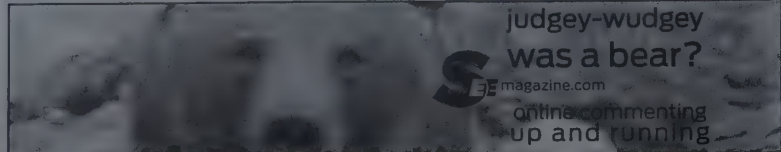
Jill: What she said!

100 Flowers will be on exhibit at
Latitude 53 until Nov. 22

judgey-wudgey
was a bear?

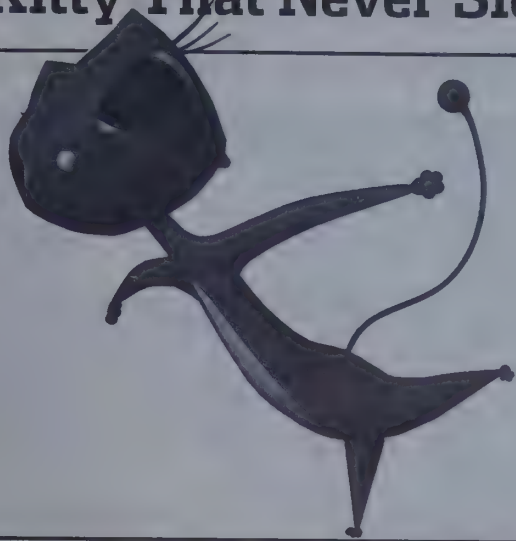


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THEATRE PREVIEW • FELINE FANTASY • BY TRENT WILKIE | 507 words

The Kitty That Never Sleeps



The Cat That Was Spawned By A Mouse | A computer-animated feline stars in *Su-Kat* alongside Kirsten Rasmussen and Steve Pirot. PHOTO COURTESY OF AZIMUTH THEATRE

KIRSTEN RASMUSSEN WAKES UP FROM A COMA, BUT A DREAMWORLD FELINE WON'T LEAVE HER ALONE IN *SU-KAT*

SU-KAT

Directed by Murray Ulas. Written by Steve Pirot, based on a story by Vanessa Sabourin. Starring Kirsten Rasmussen and Steve Pirot. The Living Room Playhouse (11315-106 Ave). Nov. 13-29. Tickets: pay what you can.

Dreams, at best, make very little sense. One part whimsy, one part cerebral boredom, they tend to leave us shaking our heads. So how do you describe a multimedia two-person play partially set in the subconscious with a large animated cat as one of its main characters?

"It's like when you wake up from a dream and you are telling your friend about it and you're like, 'So I was running away from a murderer and then I'm having the greatest sex of my life, then I was eating this shepherd's pie and it was really good, then a small man jumped out of it and told me I would die when I was 80,'" explains Kirsten Rasmussen, the star of the new play *Su-Kat*. "It's kind of like a funhouse ride because it's intense but it has moments of cuteness and rawness and spirituality."

Rasmussen plays Susanne, a rich young lady who has recently awakened from a five-year coma. Her compatriot in this story, Brian (played by Steve Pirot, who co-wrote the script), is a comic strip writer whose drawings are hauntingly similar to the characters who kept Susanne company during her coma. But *Su-Kat* is even more elaborate than it sounds: Pirot and Rasmussen play several other characters as well, to the accompaniment of live music by Lane Arndt and animations by Matt Schuurman. With so much going on, *Su-Kat* seems more like an

enactment of Freud's *The Interpretation of Dreams* — that is, if Freud had bothered to include a plot.

"It's about two people who get obsessive about their dreams but are trying to find away to live in reality," Rasmussen says. "They both have found something very magical in their dreams. Brian isn't totally satisfied with his life. For Suzanne, she's sort of forced into the dream world. She has the time of her life there, but she's not there by choice."

The play is a contrast of concept and style but isn't too far off from what Rasmussen has done in the past. "I just graduated from the BFA program so I was doing mostly studio and classical theatre shows and the other side of my life was improv," Rasmussen explains. "So, funnily enough, this show rides the line right

between the two of those. It's been an absolute blast for me in that, well, obviously I've been learning my lines like an actor but at the same time this is small, fun, more experimental and it's certainly right in the middle."

While Rasmussen acknowledges the eclectic intellectuality of the play, she promises that it won't hit audiences over the head with ideas but rather pose some entertaining questions.

"It's like, 'Hey, here's a reference that you can dabble around with in your brain,'" she says. "What do you think that means? It's like a dream in the sense where you are talking to Big Bird in your dream and then he's taking his pants off and you think, 'What does that mean?'"

"That's not in the play, by the way. That's from my life."



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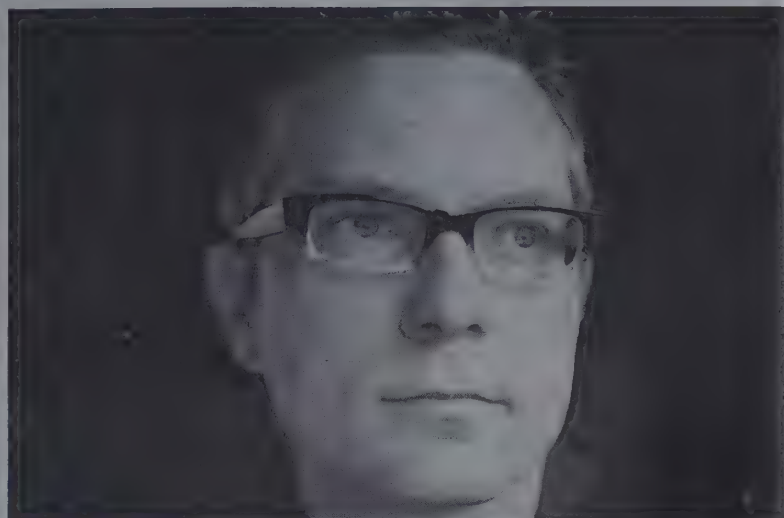
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BOOK REVIEW • LITERARY THRILLER • BY MARLISS WEBER | 603 words

Canadians: Just As Perfidious As The Yanks!



A Perfect Circle | Could Andrew Pyper's *The Killing Circle* be the great Canadian novel? PHOTO BY JENNIFER HOWSON

A SIMPLE ACT OF LITERARY THEFT HAS DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE CANLIT HERO OF *THE KILLING CIRCLE*

THE KILLING CIRCLE

By Andrew Pyper. Doubleday Canada, 321 pp, \$29.95

★★★★

How to write the great Canadian mystery novel:

- Set your story in a major Canadian city, one we all know and love to hate (i.e., Toronto).

- Make sure it's winter. The coldest on record. Your characters must always be cold.

- Alternatively, set it in summer. The most miserable, humid, mosquito-ridden August heat wave imaginable. Just to set the record straight to the rest of the world: no, we don't live in igloos. Year-round, anyway.

- Make your protagonist a writer — no, a journalist with a thinly-veiled phony national press, thereby providing commentary on the state of the Canadian media.

- Be sure your central characters include a quirky group of vaguely likeable characters in the Sarah Polley/Atorn Egoyan mode — characters you definitely don't want to see naked, but you don't exactly want to see dead, either.

- Raise questions about truth as literature, fiction as truth and sound really, really smart.

- Include a loveable, insightful kid, wise beyond his years.

- Wax poetic about cornfields. And the bad guy who's just disappeared into them with the loveable, insightful kid.

- Include at least one sex scene, one car crash, one ghost, one story-

within-a-story, one dismembered body, one badly written poem discovered at a crime scene, one blood-drenched confession, and one dead police officer.

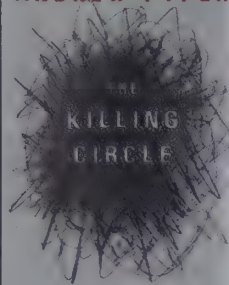
- If your name is Andrew Pyper, write *The Killing Circle*.

The Killing Circle is Toronto writer Andrew Pyper's latest literary thriller, and he does not disappoint. Hailed as "one of Canada's finest young writers" by the *Vancouver Sun* (impressive!), Pyper has the chops to take his murder mystery beyond the level of the mere whodunit and into "great Canadian novel" territory.

Here's the premise. • Patrick Rush, widower, is a B-list entertainment reporter trying to raise a young son on his own. A writer without a story, he joins a writers' circle on a whim, with the hopes of discovering a story within himself. But instead of his own story, he discovers the ghostly murder tale told by Angela, the meek, quiet girl who sits in the corner. Her story is perfect: simply told, captivating, and even more dramatic when set against the backdrop of real murders gripping the city of Toronto, murders that eerily echo Angela's story.

A year later, when Patrick hears of Angela's accidental death, he can't help himself: committing the mortal sin of plagiarism, he steals her work, embellishes it a little, and lo and behold, if the book doesn't become a mega-literary success. Cross-country tours and movie deals come next, but when people start dying again, in ways similar to the ones in Patrick's book, he becomes not only a suspect, but the next name

ANDREW PYPER



on the potential victim list. So does his son.

The Killing Circle is a well-paced, well-told story. Pyper's use of language is spare and confident, and his complex structure reveals plot points with enough tension to keep you turning pages. What makes the book more than a mere airport thriller, however, is Pyper's pointed commentary on the "Canadian dream," that drive for success and fame which, unlike the American dream, must not come at the cost of honesty and trust. When Rush pilfers Angela's story, he sets into motion a series of horrific events that show what happens when Canadians don't live up to our nice, polite, respectful reputation.

Pyper's novel can be enjoyed on two levels: as a deliciously scary murder mystery and as a telling commentary on Canadian society. It's hard to miss the implicit comparison to Americana in this book — according to Pyper, we Canadians are not as far removed from our southern neighbours as we might think.

EXHIBITS

30 YEARS YOUNG: THE EDMONTON OILERS 30TH ANNIVERSARY SHOWCASE ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #1020 JASPER AVE. OCT 9 - JAN 4 A special presentation featuring items from key moments in the team's history, including never-before-seen pictures, and an inside look into one of the greatest private sports collections in Edmonton. Info: 780-422-6223

100 FLOWERS LATITUDE 52, 10248 106 ST. OCT 24 - NOV 22 Video installation and single channel video focusing upon identity, desire and fantasy by Wayne Yung

AMIE RANGEL: FROM THE OBSERVATION ROOM FAB GALLERY, 11 FINE ARTS BUILDING, 1106 A CAMPUS NOV 12 - DEC 6 The final video presentation for the degree of Master Drawing and Intermedia. Info: 780-493-7081

ARTE EN LA CHARRERIA ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 1045 102ND AVE. OCT 25 - APR 3 More than 120 examples of craftsmanship and design distinctive in the Mexican roadway. Info: 780-453-9100

A BIRD IN THE HAND PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 19 PERROW ST. ST. ALBERT NOV 6 - NOV 20 Exhibit exploring nature in art with works by Cindy Barratt, Robert Dmytruk, Elaine Funnell and David Kerslake. Info: 780-460-9337

CROSSING THE BOUNDARIES McMULLEN GALLERY, 8440 112 ST. NOV 1 - DEC 31 Work by Members of the International Visual and Performing

Arc Society of Canada exploring the differences and similarities of art work from different cultures. Info: 780-407-7152

DANCING THE MAN RHYTHM GALLERY AT MILNER, STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, CHURCHILL SQUARE, NOV 1 - NOV 30 Paintings by Laurie McFadden.

EXUBERANCE CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA, 9103 95 AVE. NOV 7 - NOV 18 Works by Agathe St-Pierre, Claude Boocock, Joseph Mafe, Laura Watmough and Natalie Rondeau. Info: 780-461-3472

FRAGILE HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY, 3RD FLOOR, 10215 112 ST. OCT 16 - NOV 15 Drawings of the human form by Danielle. Info: 780-426-4180

GARDEN DELIGHTS JEFF ALLEN GALLERY, STRATHCONA SENIORS CENTRE, 10811 UNIVERSITY AVE. NOV 4 - NOV 27 Paintings by Heidi Smith. Info: 780-433-5807

MERS EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY, MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM, ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. NOV 6 - DEC 3 Oil paintings by Izabella & Bogdan Korol-Konkowski focussing on women in the fields of athletics, beauty, motion film production, journalism, and fashion. Info: www.artusa.com

I BET THEY CAN TELL BY LOOKING LATITUDE 52, 10248 106 ST. OCT 24 - NOV 22 A body of work by Travis McEwen

inspired by the question "When did you first realize you were different?"

INVENTING EXCUSES SUGARHILL, 10922 88 AVE. NOV 1 - NOV 30 A collection of Mixed media works by Natasha Lawyer.

JOSHUA'S JOURNEY ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845

102ND AVE. OCT 25 - JAN 4 Visitors join Joshua Loper's first trail ride on the Chisholm Trail and experience the hardships, struggles and joys of a true American Cowboy. Info: 780-453-9100

LETHE SCOTT GALLERY, 10411 124 ST. NOV 1 - NOV 25 Featuring selected prints from three artists' books inspired by Dante's Purgatory and Divine Comedy. With text by Jonathan Hart. as well as design by Susan Colberg. Info: www.scottgallery.com

MATTHEW RANGEL: A TRANSECT - DUE EAST FAB GALLERY, 11 FINE ARTS BUILDING, 1106 A CAMPUS NOV 12 - DEC 6 This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking. Info: 780-493-7081

NEW SEASONS SHANTHI THAIR, 10407 83RD AVE. NOV 11 - DEC 20 Paintings by Igor Woronuk inspired by Alberta.

OUT IN THE ORDINARY STUDIO GALLERY, 11 PERROW ST. ST. ALBERT NOV 8 - NOV 29A solo exhibit with paintings by Carol Johnson.

TERRA INCOGNITA: A SUITE OF DRAWINGS HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY, 3RD FLOOR, 10215 112 ST. OCT 16 - NOV 16 Mixed media drawings by Gloria Mok. Info: 780-426-4180

THE TOTALITY OF ALL THINGS THAT EXIST MUDDY WATERS, 8211 111 ST. NOV 2 - NOV 30 Abstract paintings by Karolina Kowalski. Info: 780-660-1064

UP THE CREEK ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL, 10186 106TH ST. OCT 4 - DEC 20 Works by Brian McArthur and Darren J. Petersen. Info: www.albertacraft.ab.ca/780-488-6611 ext. 221

URBAN ORGANIC ABSURDITY HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY, 3RD FLOOR, 10215 112 ST. OCT 16 - NOV 15 Ceramics and mixed-media by Stephanie Jonsson. Info: 780-426-4180

WILD THINGS VISUAL ARTS ALBERTA GALLERY, 10215 - 112 ST. OCT 16 - NOV 15 Solo exhibition of photographs by Robert Chelmsick. Info: 780-421-1731

THEATRE

THE BLONDE, THE BRUNETTE, AND THE VENGEFUL REDHEAD CITADEL THEATRE, 9828 101 A AVE. NOV 15 - DEC 7 Robert Hewett directs this one-woman seven character show starring Fiona Reid.

DIE-NASTY VARSONA THEATRE, 10329 83 AVE. An improvised soap opera directed by Dana Andersen. Every Mon at 8 p.m.

FRANKLIN THE TURTLE FESTIVAL PLACE, 100 FESTIVAL WAY, SHERWOOD PARK NOV 14 - NOV 15 Doors at 1:00 p.m.

HAIRSPRAY JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455 87 AVE. NOV 11 - NOV 11 The Broadway musical comes to Edmonton. Tickets thru www.ticketmaster.ca

LOUD & QUEER CABARET LA CITE FRANKOPHONE, 8627 91 ST. NOV 14 - NOV 15 A two-night festival of queer-themed theatre, music, dance, drag performances and poetry.

THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, 87 AVE. & 112 ST. NOV 12 - NOV 15 Stephanie Leaf and Dhana Cartmel direct Jean Giraudoux's poetic satire about a mad countess fighting capitalism after a group of business

men devise a secret plot to drill for oil in the streets of Paris.

PALACE OF THE END ROXY THEATRE, 10708 124 ST. OCT 28 - NOV 16 A story of three characters affected by the war in Iraq. Directed by Marianne Copthorne. Info: www.theatrenetwork.ca

RAPID FIRE THEATRE VARSONA THEATRE, 10329 83 AVE. NOV 1 - NOV 25 Varsona Theatre, 10329 83 Ave., 448-0695 Theatre Sports Fridays, Chimpov Saturdays, \$10 at the door. Info: www.rapidfiretheatre.com

SU-KAT AZIMUTH THEATRE, 11315 106TH AVE. NOV 13 - NOV 30 Directed by Steve Pirof featuring Kirsten Rasmussen. A tale of a cat and a platypus.

LIVE COMEDY

BEST OF EDMONTON THE COMIC STRIP BOURBON STREET - WEST EDMONTON MALL The best in Edmonton's comedy community. Info: www.thecomistrip.ca/780-483-5999

BOB ANGELI COMEDY FACTORY GATEWAY BLVD. NOV 20 - NOV 22 Doors at 8 p.m. Info: 780-469-4999

HIT OR MISS MONDAYS THE COMIC STRIP BOURBON STREET - WEST EDMONTON MALL Amateur comedy. Info: www.thecomistrip.ca/780-483-5999

HOWIE MILLER THE LAUGH SHOP #1105 LONDONDERRY MALL, 137 AVE. & 66 ST. NOV 13 Doors

at 8 p.m.
JR BROW THE COMIC STRIP BOURBON STREET - WEST EDMONTON MALL NOV 19 - NOV 23 With Kelly Soloduka & Shawn Gramak. Doors at 8 p.m. Info: 780-483-5999

JOHNNY "BAGPIPES" JOHNSTON THE LAUGH SHOP #1105 LONDONDERRY MALL, 137 AVE. & 66 ST. NOV 14 - NOV 15 Info: www.thelaughshop.ca

THE LION'S HEAD PUB COMEDY NIGHT Featuring professional & amateur comedians. \$10 cover. Hosted by Lars Callenau every Sun at 9 p.m.

LORENZO THORNTON COMEDY FACTORY GATEWAY BLVD. NOV 11 - NOV 15 Doors at 8 p.m. Info: 780-469-4999

MICHAEL SOMMERVILLE THE COMIC STRIP BOURBON STREET - WEST EDMONTON MALL NOV 12 - NOV 16 With Keith Saranowski & Kelly Dukus. Doors at 8 p.m. Info: 780-483-5999



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SET & COSTUME DESIGN BY
Suzanna Reski

LIGHTING DESIGN BY
Marek Jurek

SOUND DESIGN BY
Richard van Gasteren

HIGHLIGHT • PIPE DREAM



Paying The Piper | Johnny "Bagpipes" Johnston blows audiences away with his Highland rock routine. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Johnny "Bagpipes" Johnston • Nov 14-15 • The Laugh Shop

Make sure your kilt is strapped on tight because old Johnny is taking a break from his circuit of corporate gigs to come play a little Highland music for us. Johnny likes to frequent Caesar's Palace in Vegas, or open shows for the likes of Wide Mouth Mason, Kansas, and 54/40, but sometimes he needs to take a break and play for the common man. Johnny is an advocate of wholesome comedy, so rest assured that his kilt will remain securely fastened, and we even hear that he wears underwear beneath it. He's also a huge fan of rock 'n' roll so bring your dancing boots, but leave the caber at home — there just isn't enough space in the Laugh Shop to be tossing telephone poles around.

A Period Of Adjustment



MY MESSY BEDROOM JOSEY VOGELS

THE TERROR, THE TRAUMA, THE TABOOS: 'BECOMING A WOMAN' ISN'T ALWAYS A PLEASANT TRANSITION

Nothing kicks the little girl out of you like the moment you see that first brown splotch on your undies.

One fine Saturday afternoon, you're an innocent 11-year-old jumping up and down on the bed like the other kids and the next thing you know, you go the bathroom and find a quarter-sized bloodstain on your panties.

"I stared at it a long time, wondering how I could have hurt myself," Donna, now in her forties, remembers. "When I figured out what it was, I sent my cousins home and went to bed. It was four in the afternoon, but I felt like I needed to lie down. My mother and sister laughed uproariously when they found me in bed, lying down because I was 'sick.'" Donna had been given a booklet so she knew what was happening, but her overriding thought was "Oh no! There's no going back now. This is it."

"Our baby's a woman now," Lori remembers her mother telling her father. "I was so embarrassed — I didn't want my father to know about my body."

Nine-year-old Natalie burst into tears when her 12-year-old sister Christina told her that getting her period meant she could have a baby,

"I misunderstood and thought she meant I was going to have a baby," recalls Natalie, now a 34-year-old English teacher. "I felt much too young to have a baby."

When Christina told another friend of hers one day that she was going to start bleeding through the same place she peed, her friend didn't believe her. "She turned white,

to what Christina's own mother went through as a young girl. Her mother grew up in the 1940s in a poor family and had to wear hand-me-down overalls that were too small. The straps cut into her so sharply that her shoulders bled. When she told her mother she thought she had got her period, she was hauled off to the doctor to

"No it's here," she whispered. Ignorance may be bliss, but I mean really, now.

Much of the secrecy and embarrassment surrounding our periods comes from the fact that menstruation isn't just about bleeding; it's the sign that a girl is growing up and becoming, gulp, a sexual being. Twenty-nine-year-old Krissandra thought

"MY MOTHER TOLD ME WHEN I GOT MY PERIOD THAT I WAS TO TELL NO ONE EXCEPT HER. SHE GAVE IT A CODE NAME. I FELT LIKE AN AGENT OF ESPIONAGE. THE CODE NAME WAS ROSY. IN THIS WAY, I COULD COMMUNICATE WITH MY MOTHER IF OTHERS, ESPECIALLY MALES, WERE PRESENT."

went outside, and threw up," recalls Christina, now 40. "Apparently I forgot to tell her that it only lasts a few days at a time. She thought she was going to bleed for the rest of her life."

And this was progress compared

have things explained, a common practice at the time. The doctor checked her out and told her that she did not, in fact, have her period. Christina's mom couldn't figure out why he was looking "down there" and pointed to her shoulders:

she was dying when she first got her period as a teenager. In a way, part of her was.

"I think I realized that in a sense I was losing something: innocence, naïveté. It separated me from the girls who didn't have their periods, and my male friends suddenly saw me differently."

We don't make nearly the same fuss when a boy has his first wet dream. Mom or Dad don't waltz out with his stained sheets and announce, "Look, honey, our boy is a man now!"

But while Mom and Dad may proudly announce that their baby is a woman now, it quickly becomes clear that that's about as much as anybody wants to hear about it.

"Aunt Flo is visiting," we whisper in mixed company when someone asks why so-and-so is doubled over with cramps in the corner.

Tricia Warden writes about how getting her period made her feel like a secret spy in an essay in *The Bust Guide to the New Girl World*.

"My mother told me when I got my period that I was to tell no one except her," writes Warden. "I was forbidden to bring up the subject if men or boys were present because I was told it was an extremely private thing. To give it that certain neurotic paranoid afraid-of-your-own-sexuality flair she gave it a code name. I felt like an agent of espionage. The code name was Rosy. In this way I could communicate with my mother if others, especially males, were present."

The message is clear: We're happy to acknowledge you are now a sexual being, but please keep it under wraps and spare us the details. It's a message not lost on the sanitary products (or, to use the even more cryptic term, the "feminine hygiene") industry. It has built a more than \$2-billion-a-year business on the premise that we can wear white jeans and go horseback riding without anyone ever knowing we're bleeding.

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Proposition 8 Killed My Election-Night Buzz



SAVAGELOVE DAN SAVAGE

I'M GLAD OBAMA WAS ELECTED, BUT CALIFORNIA'S ANTI-GAY-MARRIAGE AMENDMENT WAS A MAJOR DOWNER

I have to say I'm disappointed.

Proposition 8 passed in California, as did anti-gay-marriage amendments in Florida and Arizona. Decency and compassion suffered a horrible blow, and I was hoping to hear a few words from you about it. Some inspiration before I took off from work to go and protest the Mormon Church. Maybe you had your column written already, but couldn't you have pulled an all-nighter in order to write something more relevant?

A Loyal Reader

Sorry, ALR, but due to the vagaries of the dead-tree media, I file these columns roughly a week in advance, and it went to press on Tuesday morning, before any election returns were in. (Please note: At my house, "filing a column" doubles as a euphemism for taking a crap. Make of that what you will.)

But here's my election-night reax, a week late, for what it's worth: I voted for Obama, gave money to Obama, and cried when CNN called it for Obama. But the approval of the Mormon-bankrolled anti-gay-marriage amendment in California quickly snuffed my Obama buzz. I had expected anti-gay-marriage amendments in Arizona and Florida to pass, of course, but voters in California – particularly those who voted for Obama, against the rights of same-sex couples, and for the rights of farm animals – came close to ruining election night for me.

But let's look on the bright side of the anti-gay-marriage amendments, shall we? The openly Republican governor of Florida, Charlie Crist – who got engaged to a real live girl when he was in the running to be McCain's VP – won't have to marry a real live girl now. Because it's illegal for gays to get married now in Florida – right, Charlie? And even in California there's a little good news: Voters approved this year's anti-gay-marriage amendment by much smaller margins (52 to 48) than they approved an anti-gay-marriage law back in 2000 (61 to 38). So ... uh ... we're winning, even as we're losing.

Or something

But now, to honor Barack Obama's historic victory, I will answer questions that were e-mailed by readers on election night. While you were obsessing about election returns, there were people out there writing to me about ...

I am a completely straight guy. I am madly in love with my girlfriend. One night, she was giving me oral and stuck a finger in my ass. I was uncomfortable at first, but in a little time I began to like it. I found it felt so good. Now my girlfriend asked if I wanted to try a butt plug. At first I said, "Yes!" But now, the more I think about it, I am starting to think it may be gay. My question: Is there something gay about using a butt plug?

Guy With Anal Interests

I've dedicated my life to reassuring panicky straight boys that a little anal stimulation won't make 'em gay. My oft-stated position: If a guy and a girl are doing it during sex – whatever it is, whatever it looks like – it's straight sex. And yes, that includes a pair of straight girls making out to turn on a straight boy, as well as the far less common straight-boys-making-out-to-turn-on-a-straight-girl scenario.

But no more. From now on I intend to sow gay panic when and where I can. Maybe straight men, who voted in overwhelming numbers for the various anti-gay shit on their ballots, won't be so quick to strip gay people of their civil rights if they're worried that one false move – or one finger up the butt – can turn them gay.

So for the record, breeder boys: A finger in the butt can make you gay, using a butt plug can make you gay, doing it doggystyle can make you gay, playing with your nipples can make you gay, fucking a woman in the ass can make you gay, wiping from front-to-back can make you gay, standing up to pee can make you gay, and watching dudes hump dudes on ESPN – Ultimate Fighting Championship – for sure makes you gay.

I hope you can help. My boyfriend gets home from Afghanistan next week, and I want to surprise him with anal. I can't find anything online about preparing for it. I don't want to be messy. It's always clean in porn videos. Please advise.

Desperate

Careful there, Desperate, I'd hate to see your boyfriend turn gay. But if you want to risk it, get your hands on a copy of Tristan Taor-

mino's *The Ultimate Guide to Anal Sex for Women*. But don't blame me if he wants to gay-marry you afterward.

I'm a 21-year-old bi guy, and I was recently hanging out at my university's Queer Collective when the issue of the "F" word came up. I argued that it was okay to use the word so long as it's not derogatory. The lesbians, however, thought that it was disgusting slang, almost like using the "N" word to describe black people. What do I do, Dan? Is the "F" word off limits?

Flabbergasted About Glossary

The "F" word should only be used to describe voters in California, Florida, and Arizona who cast ballots for Obama and their state's anti-gay-marriage amendments.

We are talking about the word "fuckers," right?

I have a question of a more medical nature for you. My husband and I have been married four months, both virgins at the time of marriage. We have sex three or four times a week and always

use lube. The problem is that sex is very painful for me. On my back or from behind is uncomfortable, but tolerable. Me on top is unbearable. My husband is aware, and sensitive, to this issue. He makes sure I'm relaxed and will change positions or stop when I ask. Will it get any better? I want to have sex without any hesitation.

Painful Intercourse Needs To Stop

Here's an idea that might help, PINTS: Have more sex but less vaginal intercourse. Get some oral-sex sessions into the mix, along with some mutual-masturbation sessions; in other words, sex you can have without hesitation right now. Then go see a doc to make sure there isn't a medical issue here.

If there isn't, slowly work vaginal intercourse back into the mix, experimenting with new positions and lubricants, without eliminating oral and mutual masturbation

as stand-alone sex acts you can enjoy with the husband and sex acts you can transition to when vaginal intercourse isn't working for you.

I'm a straight white boy of 25 who is very excited about Obama's victory and the landslide in Congress. Proposition 8 is still undecided, though, while they count votes. I wanted you to know that I'm rooting for you, my uncle, his partner – his husband, actually, as of last week – and every gay man and woman in California.

Stephen

Thanks for the note, Stephen, but Proposition 8 was decided by the time I got it. My condolences to your uncle and his husband.

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190. Announcements

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2005. Artist to Artist

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The Works Art & Design Festival is now accepting applications for the 2011 festival exhibit. DEADLINE is August 25, 2009. To download applications, please visit www.theworks.ab.ca or contact Amber Brooke at: amber.brooke@theworks.ab.ca. Join us, June 19 - July 1, 2009

The Works Art & Design Festival is now accepting applications for the 2011 festival exhibit. DEADLINE is August 25, 2009. To download applications, please visit www.theworks.ab.ca or contact Amber Brooke at: amber.brooke@theworks.ab.ca. Join us, June 19 - July 1, 2009

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2010. Musicians Available

Bass player, very experienced, seeking working progressive rock band. Send resume to: Edmontobass@gmail.com or contact

Female singer looking for a band. I enjoy all genres except jazz and metal. My voice lends itself to soul, R&B, blues, etc. I am new to it, but am willing to try almost anything once! (Have completed a general singing course including Country Vocal Spotlight, making it to the semi-finals) Email: cdesranee@hotmail.com, PH 780-454-0968

FREELANCE DRUMMER

AVAILABLE. Experienced drummer looking to play live gigs with various bands. I have a Terry Bozzio/Roger Taylor (Queen) playing style, with a primarily rock-based background. Prefer original bands, but I will play in any group, so long as we're up on that stage. NO FULL-TIME BANDS PLEASE. More importantly, SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY, CHAT, and NO SCLICTORS - the goal here is to play live, not have stuff sold to me. You have a band in need of a fill-in drummer? I'd love to meet, greet, rehearse and gig with ya! Contact: lets_gow_bowling10@hotmail.com

Local country/rock band with immediate openings for a range of bookings. Currently seeking New Years gig. Contact Joyn at www.killerowcountrybands.com or 913-7327

Singer and Bassist needed for original heavy project. Serious inquiries only. Contact Aaron at (780) 474-7076

2010. Musicians Available

Live band "3 in the Wind" booking for Christmas parties etc. for 2008/2009. Quality 3 piece band with 40+ years of rock to CCR and ZZ Top. Great band/great price. Phone TK Enterprises 780-966-7394

2 piece indie folk rock requires percussionist. Call Jake@percussionist.ca 780-353-0821

20 female singer, VERY interested in creating/forging a band. My prof Rock/Blues/Grungoid music. Influence: Metallica, System of a down, Nirvana, Godsmack, Led Zeppelin, Amy Winehouse, Etta James, etc. Age pref: 18-35. Very dedicated. Mature open-minded, creative. Please contact Julie (780)4876639/7806807933 or evishanale666@msn.com. Rock and Roll!!!

3 piece rock band looking for 30+ male vocalist/rhythm guitar. Contact 477-3708

Band seeking lead guitar player or bass player. Influences are The Band, Wilco and Old Reliable. Please call Rob @ 780-239-1955 or email: arlie@blackberry.net

Bass player wanted for 5 piece original rock band, the killers, the highs, etc. Demos available. North side rehearsal. No phone 780-633-2735 leave a message

Experimental ALTERNATIVE/POP/ROCK band "Taking Medication" is holding auditions for a singer/instrumentalist. Derrick @ 780-935-2535 or bassesided@hotmail.com

fFunk/Groove Machine seeks charismatic male vocalist. TCall Dan @ 780-905-5191

GottaGrooveBands want you to come and rock the blues. Jammin with more to come PH 780-436-1127

Gray Area Productions is seeking tribute performers for a unique entertainment package. Call for information: 466-5513

JOIN OUR ORIGINAL GROUP 2 singer/songwriters have started a Pop group with Jazz roots. Looking to build our repertoire for performance and recording. Practice at least weekly. Looking for musicians (18-24yrs) who are creative and who can improvise. Needed: pianist, guitarist, bass, drummer, cellist, as well as brass section. Contact: karenlevine@hotmail.com

Lead/Rhythm guitar required for All-Pro rock original project. Influences: S.T.P. Chans, V.R. Etc. Call Glen @ 996-3571

Looking for a lead singer - male or female, bassist and lead guitar to join a fantastic Canadian Artist Band. Playing clubs, corporate and casino gigs in the Edmonton area. We are a six piece group with excellent talent and professional musicianship. Ability to play an instrument is an asset but not required for lead singer. Vocals are an asset for bassist or lead guitar. If you are interested please call 780-651-3866.

Looking for beats to perform solo acts. Piece work compensation depending on quality. Will eventually turn into contract depending on the act performance review.

Socan members welcome! Contact Mike at 819-4934

Looking To Record An Album? Looking To Record A Video? Looking To Get Promo's Done for your album or promo? Can you afford \$3840/month for all of the above? The Sixth Sense Media Group has the answer. Natural audio/visual@bmc.com or call me Michelle at (780) 993-5530

2020. Musicians Wanted

Rhythm guitar player needed. Ideal for retired or semi-retired individual. Need someone part time to play duos at hospitals and retirement homes. Willing to work north of Edmonton. Gas expenses guaranteed. Remittance is negotiable.

Also looking for someone who knows how to operate GarageBand on a MAC computer. Will pay to teach me. Pls Call Bob at 780-398-2150.

Songwriter for hire
For singers who just want to sing, and don't play any particular instrument. For Bands who are in a rut and want something new but are frustrated with the songs that they're working on.
Check out
www.myspace.com/wyntermymnt or samples.
e-mail:
Wyntermymnt@hotmail.com
or Call Steph at 780-716-3913

Vocalist/Songwriter seeks band or players to form. Hard rock/funk original format. Pros/Serious only. Call Glen @ 996-3571.

2040. Music Instruction

FREE TRIAL GUITAR LESSON with (My) Ma Fletcher, Folk, Blues, Bluesgrass, Country, Light Rock. Why go to a place where you get a different teacher every week? Study with a teacher who really cares. Has taught 3,000 students, and played at over 1,000 concerts and 91 festivals. Day, Evening or Saturday afternoon. Call 780-426-4155
www.malfletcher.com

2070. Studio/Rehearsal Space

New rehearsal studio open. Pro equipment. See why we're the best in town. Visit
www.edmontonjampspace.com or call 780-288-7726

2200. Massage Therapy

Chinese traditional body and feet deep tissue massage by registered massage therapist. 443-6221. 11639-97 St.

IF YOU'RE TIRED OF INEFFICIENT THERAPY.
Therapeutic Massage. Heidi 1-800-332-3515 (Vegville)
1-800-868-6139 (Edmonton)

Mobile Spa & In Call Bodywork Therapy (Lic. & Bonded). 20 yrs. exp., Oliver area for relaxation and rejuvenation. Target your stress, aches, poor circulation, toxins and fatigue with aroma-steam, shower, massage, and talk therapy. 428-1965 or 820-1965. By appt.

SWEDISH - CALIFORNIAN massage 20 years experience. Old Strathcona. Also evenings and weekends. Strictly non sexual. Amanda 780-405-8765.

Transformational Massage, Tantra Massage, Sexological Bodywork, Health Coach with a 20 year experienced licensed therapist. Janet Lee 780-633-6623
www.secretsofantara.com

3010. Auctions

PAR-T-GOLF #14, 7619 - 50 Ave., Red Deer, Alberta, Tues. Nov. 18, 2008, 11 a.m. Selling a 2008 Par-T-Golf Double Eagle Elite plus 4 indoor simulators - complete. 1 - VectorLinks Pro Launch Golf System, club repair specialty tools, shop tools, golf club sets, repair parts, office & patio furniture. Come pop corn maker. See website: www.montgomeryauctions.com. Call 1-800-371-6963.

THINKING AUCTION? Guarantee your results with Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers. Whether it's equipment, real estate, livestock or a complete farm dispersal. Contact us today. 1-800-491-4494 or bauction.com

3210. Misc. For Sale

A FREE telephone Service - Get your first phone free. Bad credit, don't sweat it. No deposits. No credit checks. Call Freedom Phone Lines today. Toll free 1-866-844-7464.
\$38.95 HOME phone Service - Reconnect your home phone. No line rental - \$38.95 monthly - \$18.95 one time activation - \$18.95 unlimited long distance. Call Choice Tel now! 1-888-333-1405, www.choice-tel.ca

3210. Misc. For Sale

AFFORDABLE PHONE reconnection. Bad credit - no problem! Call Tembo Telecom and ask about our new customer special. Sign up today. Will save \$20. 1-877-266-6386, www.tembo.ca

BED, QUEEN, orthopedic Pillowtop mattress-boxspring. New, still in plastic. Full warranty. Cost \$1100; sell \$375 KING size, extra-thick, cost \$1550; sell \$650. Will deliver. 403-371-1400.

CONTAINER GUY 20, 40 + 48' containers. Also Reefers available. Weather, Bug and Road proof for storage. Delivery available. Excellent condition. Clean city rated gravel. 780-307-4656.

EVERY BUILDINGS on sale - Canadian manufacturer direct at "Rock bottom prices". 32x60x16 \$11,995 35x60x16 \$14,285 40x60x16 \$20,995 48x100x16 \$27,495 60x120x18 \$44,900. Many other! Pioneer Steel 1-800-668-5422.

HOT TUBSPA 2008 Model six panel, 33 jets, 9 HP, waterfall, LED lighting/ozonator (exclusive chemical free)/fully insulated/complete warranty and 5' cover. Brand New, still in wrapper. Cost \$7,800 Sacrifice \$4750. Can Deliver. 403-663-9767.

JACK OR JILL of all trades! Expert on all trades. Learn entry level skills. Work placement in trade of choice. 19 week Cooperative Trades Orientation program at NAIT's Fairview Alberta campus. 1-888-999-7882; www.nait.ca; Residences available. Jan.09 start. www.nait.ca

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NEW LOADED Computer 100 \$29.99/month! Everyone's Approved. MDS Desktop right to your doorstep from only \$29.99/month. Intel Processor, 2 GB RAM, 500 GB HD, 22" LCD Flat Panel, Windows Vista and loads of software, or 15.4" Notebooks in-house financing. *Call for conditions! 1-800-235-5254.

RODENT and weather proof 40' and 50' sea containers. 5 x 10' coral panels starting at \$55. Call: Alberta. 403-540-4164; 1-866-517-8335; www.magnates-steel.com.

SAWMILLS FROM only \$3,495.00 - Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwood-sawmills.ca/400T Free Information 1-800-666-6899 ext. 4000T.

3240. Travel/Trade

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES. Book online at www.canadatravels.com and save more on your vacations. Use code NCA74327 for discount or call us toll free at 1-800-563-5722.

SKI & STAY at Sun Peaks Resort BCI Vacation rentals, new condos & chalets. Kitchen, fireplace, hot tubs, slide-a-way beds. New. Westjet flights! 1-800-811-4588; www.Bear-County.ca.

TIMESHARE FORECLOSURES - Save 60-80% off retail Best Resorts & Seasons! Throughout Canada, U.S., Caribbean and more! Call for free catalogue to-day! 1-800-731-8046; www.holidaygroup.com/sc.

4001. Farm Stuff

HEATED CANOLA WANTED. Buying green, damaged, spring thrashed canola. Buying wheat, barley, oats and peas for feed. On farm pickup. Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252

DO YOU HAVE the winning ticket? Not the lottery ticket - your Journeyman ticket. 1st to 4th year seats available for Jan. intakes. NAIT Fairview campus. Small class sizes - residences. Instructors who care about your future. 1-888-999-7882; www.nait.ca

ROUND HAY and straw bales for sale. Cheap. We deliver, sell and loading. Also a bale shredder \$2990. No Sunday calls please. 1-403-943-6380.

5003. Real Estate Misc.

\$97,900 FOR 1520 SQ. FT. 20' wide homes with many extras. Includes delivery Available now. Best Buy Homes of Red Deer. Call 1-877-996-5564.

CROSS COUNTRY HOMES Winter Clearance Sale. A 16 X 76 with over 1200 square feet is \$84,500, only two left, so call today! 780-470-9000 or www.crosscountrypoint.com.

INVENTORY CLEAROUT now in progress. How would you like to be in your new home for Christmas and have \$10,000 cash back to boot? Call us to get the details. We are also taking orders on standard and custom designed plans for homes to be delivered in the New Year. We also have a number of used homes available. Stop in and see Pleasant Homes in the Heritage Industrial Park in Morrisville or call us at 780-939-3584 or toll free at 1-866-962-0238.

MANUFACTURED HOME Moving. Call Terry at 1-800-341-6675 for quote. Will move homes anywhere in Alberta or Saskatchewan.

MODULAR HOMES factory direct from \$84,557. Canadian. Twenty-six models to choose from. CSA A-277 approved. 45-day delivery from date of order. Includes GST, duty & shipping. Largest factory in the USA. 1-877-590-4591; jscol@pchomesltd.com; www.factormodulars.com.

NEED CASH? Home loans to 100% LTV. Refinance, pay debt, or you decide. Free appraisals. Call by phone 1-877-588-0929 or online www.home Loans.alberta.com. Alberta Home Loans.

NO G.S.T. Display Models Clearance Sale. Save up to \$9000. Modulars 20 & 16 wids. Free delivery to 100 miles. Jandel Homes 1-800-463-0084; www.jandelhomes.com.

NO PAYMENTS for 3 months and all SRI Homes on sale. These homes are ready for immediate delivery. Call Commercial Homes at 1-800-341-6675.

PROVINCE-WIDE classifieds. Reach over a million readers weekly. Only \$249 + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details.

RANCH FOR SALE 10,500 plus acres deeded cattle ranch and wildlife retreat. Thriving local wildlife in pristine natural setting. Rivers and creeks. 3,300 acres of hayland. 2 custom homes and 1 doublewide. 2 sets of corals with water. Close to city and commercial airport. Located in Fort St. John, BC. Asking price: \$6,500,000. Contact: Resident Manager. Carlos 256-262-3221.

WINALTA HOMES has factory-direct pricing on all in-stock models. Plus receive \$2500 cash back! All 2008 showhomes, RTM's, single wids and modulars must go! In-house financing available. Contact Winalta Homes for more information. 1-866-962-2112 or visit us at www.winaltahomes.com.

5620. Office Space

Cabinetry shop turnkey. Newer European equipment. Shop close to city centre. 477-2311.

Small character CLASSROOM space available, 10-20 people (weekly or daily). Call (780)477-2311

5620. Office Space

Unique office and shop space, furnished/unfurnished. Newly renovated, security cameras, all wood building. OFFICES starting at \$100/month utilities inc. SHOP space: 1200 sq feet w/2 overhead doors. Call 477-2311, 9AM - 5PM

5600. Manuf. Homes - Sale

WIN A \$269,900. WINALTA Home in Stony Lake's "Julland Ridge" or Sylvan Lake's "Light-houses Point"! Visit these communities and our Sales Centre in Acheson to enter. For more information go to www.winaltahomes.com and click on "homes".

5800. Manuf. Homes - Sale

WINALTA HOMES has factory-direct pricing on all in-stock models. Plus receive \$2500 cash back! All 2008 showhomes, RTM's, single wids and modulars must go! In-house financing available. Contact Winalta Homes for more information. 1-866-962-2112 or visit us at www.winaltahomes.com.

6100. Cars

#1 IN CREDIT! Rebuilding. Need a car, truck, van or SUV? Auto credit fast. Bad credit! No credit! Bankruptcy! Repossession! No problem! Call today and drive away. Call Stephanie 1-877-792-0599. Free delivery anywhere. www.autocredit-fast.ca.

BANKRUPT? BAD CREDIT? Call us! All makes and models. Professional credit rebuilders. Call 1-866-476-1936. Cavalade Auto Acceptance Corp., serving Alberta for 16 years.

DREAMCATCHER FINANCING. Buckle up today! You work, we drive! 0% down! O.A.C. free delivery to BC & Alberta. Apply online: www.DreamCatcher-loans.com, 24/7, 1-800-910-8402.

EASY FINANCE! Low payment! From \$179 a month. Need a vehicle? We deliver! For pre-approval call Nicole at 1-888-220-9981. Fax 1-888-735-7555; www.alowest-credit.ca.

6400. Recreational Vehicles

CASH FOR USED RV'S 2002 or newer only. Most models needed now! Call 403-346-1130 or 1-800-267-8253. Woody's RV World, Red Deer.

CASH FOR USED RV'S 2002 or newer only. Most models needed now! Call 403-240-1212 or 1-800-531-1212. Woody's RV World, Calgary West.

7205. Psychics

LOVE! Money! Life! #1 Psychic! 1-877-478-4410. Credit cards/pep. \$3.09/minute. 18+. 1-900-783-3800; www.mystical-connections.ca.

7240. Misc. Services

\$500. LOAN Service, by phone, no credit refused, quick and easy, payable over 6 to 12 installments. Toll Free 1-877-776-1660.

A CRIMINAL Record? We'll clear it! Don't be misled by others, we'll get you what you really need. Lowest price, guaranteed part/suiciders. Toll free 1-800-507-8043; www.pardon-granted.ca.

CLEAN DRIVING RECORD? Grey Power could save you up to \$400 on your car insurance. Call 1-888-623-5050 for a quote. open weekends.

CRIMINAL RECORD? Think Canadian pardon. U.S. travel waiver (24 hour record check). Director? Simple Fast. Inexpensive. Debt recovery? Alberta collection to \$25,000. Calgary 403-228-1300/1-800-347-2540.

DEBT STRESS? Consolidate and lower payments by 30 - 40%. End those phone calls and the worry. Avoid bankruptcy. Contact us for a no-cost consultation. Online: www.mydebtolution.com or toll-free 1-877-558-3500.

7245. Misc. Services

GET BACK on track! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need money? We lend if you own your home - you qualify. www.pioneerwest.com. BBB member. 1-888-822-0288.

UNCONTENDED DIVORCES and Legal Separation Agreements. Why pay more? Check out our low prices at www.canadianlegal.org. Voled #1 Paralegal - CCA Awards 20+ years experience. Free consultation. 1-800-320-2477.

9005. Personals

ARE YOU LOSING a loved one to substance abuse? Our program has the highest success rate. Help is only one phone call away! 1-877-782-7409; www.narconon.ca.

9005. Personals

DATING SERVICE. Long-term/short-term relationships, free calls! 1-866-512-8367. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes 1-866-573-0914. Live adult casual conversations - 1 on 1 - 1-866-522-7131. Meet on chat-lines. Local single ladies 1-866-512-9083 (18+).

DENIED CANADA Pension Plan Disability Benefits? The Disability Claims Advocacy Clinic can help. Call Allison Schmidt at 1-877-793-3222. www.saskadvocates.com.

9200. Female Escorts

Gothic Angel
Independent
Flat rate. No agency fee
Available anytime.
http://gothicdeshangel.com
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80735490-001

9200. Female Escorts

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780-990-1252
780-686-3948

9200. Female Escorts

"NAOMI"
Exotic Caribbean Vixen
36D - 29-46
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8077999-001

9420. Adult Services

Brown Sugars
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THE ORIGINAL
Call For Black Girls!
\$180 All inclusive
20yrs experience
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9450. Adult Massage

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OPEN 24 Hrs.
30 different girls
Call Anytime
We Come To You
Serving all of Alberta
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Camrose
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Ask for debit to your door
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CALL NOW!!!

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Luscious slim brunette
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Hours: 10-10pm
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Fridays: delicious doubles!
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Friendly girls with good attitudes. Varying ages, different types.
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Sexy, Slender blonde
"When you're ready for a woman"
Call Sapphire Massage @
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7313700-00

ASTROLOGY - NOV. 13-19 - BY THE KID

CRUISING THE COSMOS

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

This week, don't get suckered by blind ambition or it'll be easy to take advantage of your condition since wishin' for wild success'll get you involved in a bigger mess. It's like you 'n' the Devil makin' a deal where all you learn is reinventin' the wheel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Your impulses usually lead you someplace great, but this time that ain't their fate. No matter what it takes, keep your foot on the brakes and let cooler minds prevail or you'll find yourself on a crash course in fall!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

It ain't over until you've finally put it all behind you. That's somethin' you'll do this week and while you are, the road ahead'll seem bleak. Of course, what you don't know is that it's just an optical illusion and, when your foggy head clears, you'll be in the sunshine, pleasure cruisin'!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

This weekend may not be too black, so whatever you're plan-nin' may have to wait. Don't worry if you're in a hurry 'cause next week's forecast calls for good karma flurries!

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)

The real world don't always work like the beauty 'n' the beast, so you'd better be wary 'bout endin' up as critter feast. This week, don't be so quick to assume that a wounded creature can't bring your doom!

ARIES (March 21 - April 19)

It may be hackneyed, corny, cliched and, most of all, cheesy, but if you truly do love somethin' you've gotta set it free. This week, loosen your clutches and take some steps without your crutches!

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)

You don't need to make a pact with the Devil to take your butt to a higher level. This week, when you're tempted to take the easy way out, you're just bein' hoodwinked by your own self-doubt!

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

A wise man once said the road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom, so you'd better do what he says and go out 'n' git some. You only live once, so why be a dunce? This week, take it over the top and, like a whirled-out dervish, you'll be enlightened when you drop!

CANCER (June 21 - July 21)

The stars are shinin' in your general direction, but don't get caught up in thinkin' you've reached near-perfection. You could use the confidence you're gettin' 'cause it's good for you but the moment that you start ego-trippin', you start slippin'. This week, if you let your head get too big, your own grave's what you'll be leadin' to! dig!

LEO (July 22 - Aug. 22)

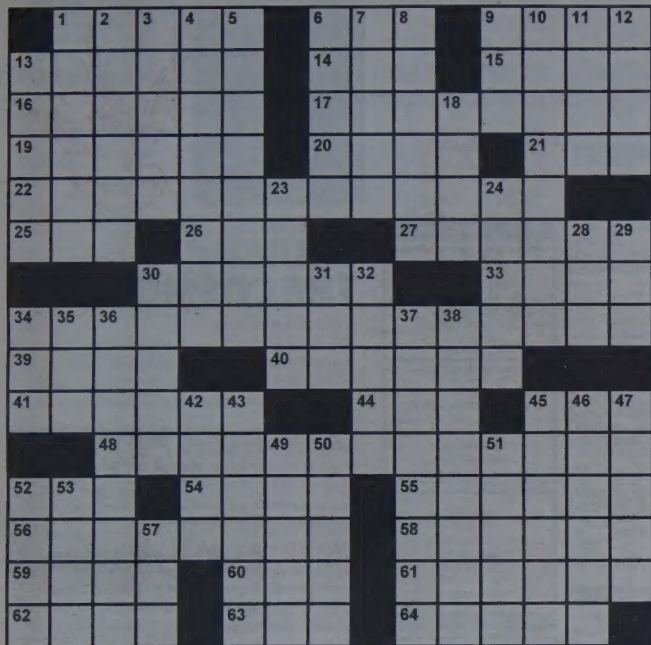
Just 'cause the lion's a big predator, it don't mean you don't have no competitor. "King of the Jungle" you may be, but what about the mountain, the air and the sea? Although they ain't somethin' to fear, the rulers of those other spheres might be worth steerin' clear of - until you've watched 'em awhile first from a tree branch high above!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

The only problem with tryin' to fight fire with fire is that it all does is make the damn blaze burn higher. This week, don't be so quick to fire off a shot when patiently layin' in wait. The best chance you've got!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

When it comes to carvin' order outta chaos, you Libras are surely the boss. However, without said chaos you wouldn't exist, so disarray ain't somethin' at which you oughta get pissed. This week, be ready to let yourself bend, or else the disorder could send you off the deep end!



L A R A M W E E O M A R
I O N A F A G S P O N Y
E T I C P L U T I O N I S
P R O M I N U E N C E
E C O A S S E T L E O
T A R W E E C H A R
T E S A N A I S O P O L Y
T R A N S T O P L U M E
H O G E D S E R I F S O Y
E A T A G I T C O E
S E P A S S A N A
G E D I P U S R E F L U X
F A K E F L U I D M O O S E
O V E N E I N S A U G E R
E A S Y S T C F L O D S
SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

MY HEART BELONGS TO YOU

A LITTLE ORGAN MUSIC

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES

©2008 Jonesin' Crosswords (editor@jonesincrosswords.com)

ACROSS

- 1 Canaanite gods
- 6 Bathroom rug
- 9 Saucy gatherings, for short?
- 13 Meat cooked in its own fat, to a chef
- 14 Earlier than now
- 15 Off-color, like comedic material
- 16 ___ Online (long-running MMORPG)
- 17 Jazz magazine that awards an "Album of the Year"
- 19 Give a not-good stardom
- 20 Palm device
- 21 Part of a nuclear family, maybe
- 22 Where some horn players use their fingers
- 25 Soak (up)
- 26 London-based record company
- 27 Some VCR models
- 30 Oscar the Grouch's original color
- 33 Crowd sounds heard while watching acrobats
- 34 1987 dance hit single by M/A/R/R/S
- 39 "The Wire" character Little
- 40 Sounds associated with first responders
- 41 Coca-Cola brand of bottled water
- 44 Form W-2 provider
- 45 Singer Corinne Bailey ___
- 48 Gerry's U.K. backup band of the 1960s
- 52 Panic at the Disco genre
- 54 Poetic sigh
- 55 "Rock ___" (old hymn)
- 56 Supergrass single of 2008
- 58 Nobel-winning author Gordimer
- 59 Tissue additive
- 60 Second Amendment-touting go.
- 61 Reznor and Lott, for two
- 62 Hip-hop duo the ___ Yang Twins
- 63 Suffix after mountain
- 64 Mount for Moses

DOWN

- 1 Maurice Ravel work
- 2 Contribute to the poker game
- 3 Get ___ grip on
- 4 Capital city near the Pacific
- 5 Page in a U.S. atlas
- 6 Show Michael McDonald left in 2008
- 7 Outdoor marketplace
- 8 Locker room bin items
- 9 Consumer information org.
- 10 Phrase heard a lot during allergy season
- 11 Dong ___ (root in Chinese medicine)
- 12 Collector's collections
- 13 Groups with fringe benefits?
- 18 ___ Scotia
- 23 Colorations
- 24 Double-bonded organic compounds
- 28 Resistance unit
- 29 Weather Channel dir.
- 30 The "O" in O magazine
- 31 Letters near 4, on a touchtone keypad
- 32 Spine-tingling
- 34 Group of whales
- 35 Thurnman who played Beatrix Kiddo
- 36 Extinct animal that resembled an elephant
- 37 "___ Finest" (tagline on a Ben & Jerry's container)
- 38 Touring with animals in Africa, perhaps
- 42 "A Face in the Crowd" actress Patricia
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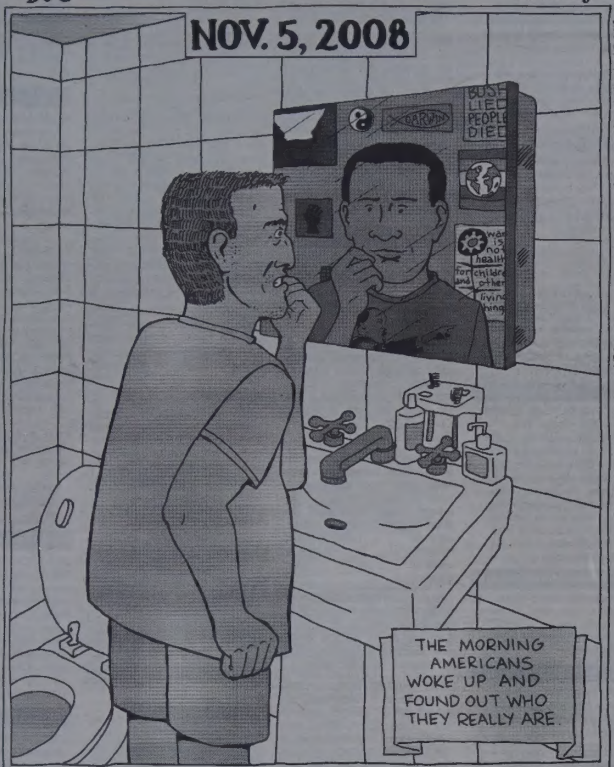
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TOM the
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BUG

by
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Bolling

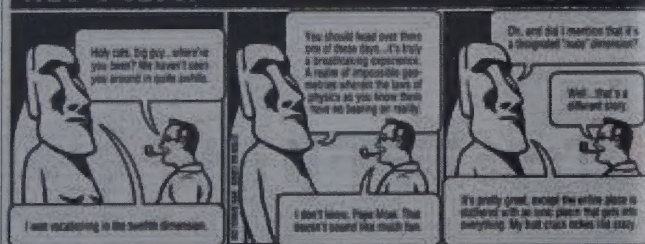
NOV. 5, 2008



RED MEAT

puckered pickle of the pointless

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INTERSECTIONS · PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



t5j

Major Mark Campbell, who lost both of his legs above the knee to a mine in Kandahar, receives a medal at the Edmonton Garrison on Nov. 5.
PHOTO BY JIMMY JEONG

FIRST PERSON • EDMONTON STORIES • BY MIKE SADAVA | 559 words

True Love And Homegrown Tomatoes

NOVEMBER, THE CRUELLEST MONTH FOR TOMATOPHILES. LOCAL TOMATO SEASON IS DONE

People always say there are two seasons in Edmonton, and I wholeheartedly agree.

You're wrong if you think I'm talking winter and road construction season. Nope. We're talking tomatoes here: the seasons between the homegrown variety and the pale imitations you buy at the grocery store.

If I had any self-discipline, I'd observe the 100-mile rule in my food habits, but it would be a dismal winter of potatoes, onions, and flaccid carrots. No Mandarin oranges. None of those gigantic green grapes the size of olives. No avocados or or-

ange peppers.

But I might be able to give up tomatos this winter.

Like many Edmontonians, I grow tomatoes with loving care. Not being organized to start them indoors from seed, I buy bedding plants in early May: Sweet 100s, Manitoba Bush, Early Girl, beefsteak, and even those yellow tomatoes with lemon-something in the name. Some are real small in the trays that hold a half-dozen plants, while others are big enough to require their own pot and already have flowers.

I put them in a sunny spot in the

dining room, and wait until I'm confident there won't be another frost. I learned from a friend not to rush the planting. One year he got them in early, and a week later they were all killed by a huge May blizzard.

Once they're in, the TLC starts. I make sure they're well-watered, trimmed, and staked up as soon as they need it.

The first ripe tomato, which comes sometime in early July, is a big event for me. Usually it's a pretty small one, or else a couple of cherry tomatoes. The salad that night, which by the way is replete with homegrown lettuce and greens, is cause for celebration. The tomato pickings are slim for weeks, but we manage to carefully spread the wealth.

Then comes the August explosion, usually starting right around the time of the Folk Festival. It's tomato sandwiches for breakfast, tomato salads for dinner, and I'm out there in the middle of the day eating cherry tomatoes like they're candy.

I'm continuing humming that wonderful line by Guy Clark: "There's only two things that money can't

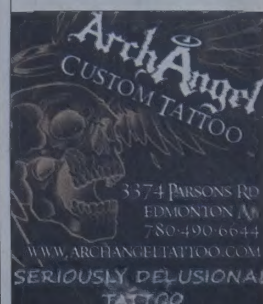
buy, and that's true love and homegrown tomatoes." It seems like the good times will never end.

But they do end, in stages. With the first threat of frost, I'm out at night throwing blankets on top of the beloved plants, until it becomes apparent that they won't be doing much more fruit-forming or ripening outside. With a tear in my eye, I pick all the remaining fruit – green, red and yellow – put them in a cardboard box, and rip the poor plants out of the ground.

For about a month I'm going back to the box every day, pickin' and still a-grinnin'. They're not as tasty as they were right off the vine, but they're still better than anything I've ever bought from Save-On, believe it.

Which brings us to November, the cruellest month for tomatophiles. Local tomato season is done, and I've just finished my first week of store-bought tomatoes. Sure, I bought them "on the vine," but what I bit into was still pithy and tasteless.

The salad days that feature tomatoes are over, until next summer.





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G5 SE Model Shown†

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